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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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12-15-1945

## Justice (Vol. 27, Iss. 24)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS UNION

Vol. XXVII, No. 24

Jersey City, N. J., December 15, 1945

Price 10 Cents

## An Editorial

### The GEB Meets

Next week, the General Executive Board of our union will hold its first meeting since the end of the war in Miami Beach, Fla.

The agenda at the coming Miami meeting fully and properly reflects our post-war problems and anxieties. While ours is a consumer industry, employment uncertainties disturb our workers no less than they disturb labor in the heavier industries. Although it is true that we did not have to reconvert after V-J Day, the fact remains that opportunities for full employment in women's wear are influenced by fabrics—and fabric shortages, in practically every market, are not conducive to brisk and abundant production.

The virtual discarding of the Little Steel formula has at last given American workers a chance to catch up on earnings, to replenish their purchasing power which shrank at the end of the war. Organized management is fighting back furiously in several industries and is endeavoring to outmaneuver labor on wages and on prices.

Our unions have followed through with a wage raise movement of their own, in accordance with fixed and stable rules and regulations. Our requests for better pay are being channeled through the processes of voluntary and impartial arbitration. It is no small source of pride to our membership and leadership to observe that not one of the more than 80 collective agreements operating in the garment industry had to be breached or dishonored in seeking higher wage scales, even where collective pacts lacked the so-called "escalator" clauses.

Organizing activity, which practically came to a standstill in the ladies' garment industry in the spring of 1942, is a subject that will loom large on the Miami Beach agenda.

A new big industry is rising on the West Coast and presents a fertile field for trade union activity. In the South, the number of knitwear and knitted undergarment plants is growing, some going into vacated buildings which were used during the war for the manufacture of military garments and accessories. Scores of new women's wear shops are also coming up in the Middle West, in Pennsylvania, in Connecticut and in communities in upstate New York.

The invasion of the women's garment industry by some men's clothing manufacturers-retailers, who are able to compete with the legitimate factors of our industry by virtue of inferior wage and hour standards will, no doubt, also receive proper attention at the meeting.

In a sense, this meeting of the GEB will close the book on the wartime activities of the ILGWU, a period of four years of extraordinary effort, highlighted by great relief drives and all-out cooperation with every agency which helped to win the war.

A new book—a peacetime book—is opening, and the experience, loyalty and warm cooperation which went into the group war record of the ILGWU will now be applied toward similar causes, here and abroad, which continue to ask for aid, guidance and direction.

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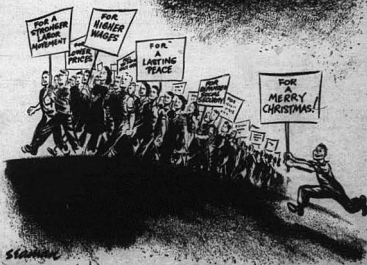
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"For All of Us — Every One of Us!"



# SPORTS

## ON THE NATION

**THE FACT-FINDING** and 30-day compulsory cooling-off period embodied in President Truman's proposed legislation were the checks of denunciation by labor leaders throughout the country. Supposedly patterned after the Railway Labor Act, the plan would play into the hands of union-busting employers, it was charged.

The cooling-off idea was the basis of the Smith-Cannedy Act which has proved so futile that the authors of the law have themselves asked for its repeal.

**THE DRIVE** to put out anti-labor legislation in Congress has reached a new peak of virulence. A bill on the House calendar is the Smith-Cannedy repealer with rays radiating in fulfillment of the wildest dreams of the union-busters.

Representative Howard Smith could not even wait for the House to act on the repealer before introducing another sweeping bill which contains sufficient shovels to pulverize the operations of labor unions entirely.

On top of that, Senator Joseph H. Ball announced he would push for hearings on the notorious Ball-Burns-Smith bill — a measure which would repeal the Wagner Act, undermine the Norris-LaGuardia anti-union law and create a system of compulsory arbitration.

Already approved by the House is the Hodge bill which is the guise of amending the federal anti-rafting law, would prohibit certain legitimate labor activities under threat of penalties running up to 20 years in jail and \$10,000 fine. But this measure must now face the Senate hurdles.

**WORKMEN'S RIGHT** to bargain collectively has again been upheld by the National Labor Relations Board in an order which is the packed to the Packard Motor Co. to bargain with the Foremen's Association of America, which is an independent union.

Paul M. Herzog, most recent addition to the Board's permanent, voted on the dissent, voted on the case for the first time. Previously, the Board had voted for and then against the union. Herzog, representative former chairman Harry Mills, sided with John M. Houston to override Gerard Reilly with the result that the foremen's labor rights are once more sustained.

The Board said has before it the Jones & Laughlin case in which John L. Lewis is seeking the right to bargain for mine foremen through the Supervisory Employees' Union of District 36.

The Board held that a foreman is an employee when he acts as a company representative in dealing with subordinates but that he is an employee when he acts to improve his own conditions.

**THE NATIONAL** Association of Manufacturers celebrated its Golden Anniversary with a new blast against organized labor. Its Member, congressional N.A.M. president, dragged out some of the oldest anti-labor epithets and smear words to make his organization's anti-union stand unmistakable. Demanding immediate legislative action, Mosier declared that "the position

of labor today is that it has been legally established in the driver's seat and it is unwilling to give up any of its special privileges."

**SOMETHING NEW** has been added to labor relations with the United Automobile Workers' offer to accept penalty fines on wild-cat strikers as the price for reaching a swift agreement with the Ford Motor Co.

In line with the UAW plan to win by winning the ranks of the employers, the scheme cured him in — the labor circles where it was looked upon as too expensive a counter-weight to the effect of the tax wind falls which will keep General Motors in good financial shape, one way or the other.

**BANK WORKERS** are the objective of an AFL reorganization drive which will receive a major test when 1,600 employees of the National Bank and Trust Co. of New York will ballot to decide whether an AFL union shall represent them in collective bargaining.

**THE NATION'S** SHIPBUILDERS voiced their demands for wage boosts to help them meet the increased cost of living at the National Shipbuilding Conference.

Representatives of labor, management and government were in attendance at the meeting, the first held since 1942, when the National War Labor Board took over wage reviews in the industry.

**WAGE INCREASES** given by an employer without dealing through the union certified by his employees were ruled out in a 3 to 2 decision by the U. S. Supreme Court. The ruling was against a St. Louis department store which sought to raise the pay of its workers, among them members of a CIO union, by \$2 a week.

The court ruled that the company was required to recognize the union as bargaining agent. Further, the court stated that the company's action "interferes with the right of self-organization by emphasizing to the employees that there is no necessity for the collective bargaining agent." If successful, the action by the firm might well block the bargaining representative in securing further wage adjustments.

**UNIVERSAL MILITARY** training legislation was hit by a group of union spokesmen testifying before the House Military Committee in hearings on proposals for peacetime conscription.

The AFL, through Lewis G. Hines, its legislative representative, told the commit-

tee that it believed preparations should be accomplished through more adequate physical care for the children of the country, sufficient medical service for everyone, "an efficient military intelligence system" and "moral vigilance on the part of the State Department, and the elimination of a policy of appeasement such as was followed previous to the attack made upon us by Japan."

## ON THE WORLD

**AUSTRALIAN** labor is in such a state of unrest that Prime Minister Joseph Chifley has been forced to postpone a scheduled labor-management conference similar to the one recently held in the United States. Unions are on strike in the iron, steel, coal and shipping industries, and walk-outs are spreading at a pace that seems to threaten the possibility of an even more general strike. Calling off the labor-management conference for an indefinite time, the Prime Minister said it would be held "when better conditions prevailed."

More than 500,000 workers are out on strike and unions in most Australian communities have staged demonstrations demonstrating a 40-hour week.

**BULGARIAN** railway workers have singled out as being subject to martial law and military penalty for "any offense of importance." This rule was issued recently by the director general of the Bulgarian railway system in a decree which, considering that the country is now under Soviet domination, shows extreme candor in rivaling the Nazi labor tribunals that were "founded" last year when the Germans were driven off Bulgarian soil. According to this remarkable decree, "The disciplinary courts which were in operation until Sept. 9, 1944, and ceased to exist after this date will be assumed in the near future under the name of 'Labor Disciplinary Courts.' In view of the fact that all employees of the Bulgarian railways are under military orders, any offense of importance will be tried and punished by military courts."

**NEW ZEALAND** ironworkers are planning to form a national cooperative company to take over all the loading and unloading of ships at New Zealand ports on a contract basis. A national conference of the Waterworks Workers' Union is being held to study the conditions under which the project will operate.

**JAPANESE** coal miners are so sure that the nation's economic life is making extremely slow headway toward revival. With about 72,000 workers needed to keep

the mines operating at a minimum, a spokesman for the American Military Government has warned Japanese leaders that "if you allow your industries to close up because of the lack of coal, it may be ten years instead of the estimated two to three years before you can begin to reestablish your industries."

**NICARAGUAN** workers are to be provided with educational facilities as the result of a decree issued by the Ministry of Public Instruction. The decree provides that all plants employing more than 100 workers must establish apprenticeship courses and that those plants employing more than 500 workers must set up night schools, with instruction given in languages, mathematics, history, geography and civics.

**CHINESE** students in Kuuming are on strike in protest against the civil war now raging between Nationalist troops and Communist forces.

Over 6,800 students are refusing to attend classes as a means of protesting against urging leaders of both sides to bring about a quick cessation of hostilities. In a demonstration last week, four students were killed and nine injured when hand grenades were thrown into their midst. According to an official dispatch from Kuuming, one of the soldiers who threw the grenades confessed that he was acting under orders of "certain Communist elements."

In addition to demanding immediate end of the civil war, the students are urging formation of a coalition government, guarantee of freedom of speech and assembly and the right of habeas corpus. They also insist that American troops be withdrawn from China "to avoid aggravating the civil war." Led by the Democratic League, these student demonstrations are said to involve both the Kuomintang and the Communists.

**NORWEGIAN** labor is contributing about \$60,000 to the government for its program of rehabilitating the demobilized.

The northernmost section of the country, where heavy fighting and large-scale sabotage took place during the war and the retreating Germans had "serviced" the factories.

The giant Federation of Labor is sponsoring this fund-raising drive, to which all union members in the nation will contribute a half-day's wages.

**DANISH** railwaymen staged a 30-day strike in Copenhagen to protest against "striking" a Quilting, who had been partly cleared after trial and then assigned to duties at one of the railroad stations. The resulting stoppage of all trains out of the capital brought a quick decision by the cabinet to remove the offender from his job.

**FRENCH** state employees called a 10-day general strike last week which tied up all the public services, including mail, municipal transport, power stations and government offices. The only exceptions were railway trains and health services. The workers are demanding pay increases and revision of the pension system. A government compromise of the conflict promised immediate aid for the hard-paid workers and progressive increases in the future to time in the upper pay brackets.

## British Grave-diggers Strike Over 'Being Worked to Death'

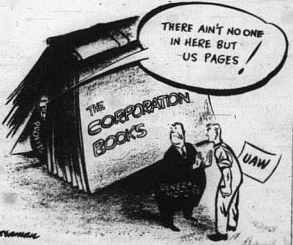
Adding a somewhat macabre note to the unrest among certain sections of British labor is the strike staged last week by a group of grave-diggers in the town of Barrow-in-Furness. A spokesman for their union announced the men's grievances with the remark that "we are not being worked to death."

"Appropriate action" toward easing the load of these workers has been promised by the government's national service representative. This offer takes into consideration the dispute on the ground that grave-diggers come under the "essential workers" order.

## N. C. Students Ban 'Jim Crow' Despite Official's Protest

The ninth annual student legislative assembly of North Carolina voted out its Jim Crow barrier last week by voting to invite Negro students to attend its convention in 1946. The vote was 110 to 48. This action was taken despite the protest of Secretary of State Thad Eure who urged that the program of racial harmony, which "is being voluntarily" would be threatened by admitting Negro delegates.

The same proposal had been rejected at previous conventions, but the vote in favor of Negro participation has given steadily stronger each year.



## Truck Drivers' Strike Set After New Year's

The workers who keep bundles and dresses moving between the jobbers and contractors of New York's cloak and dress industries authorized the officers of their union, Local 102, Cloak and Dress Drivers, to take strike action against five trucking associations. This decision was made at an all-membership meeting on Nov. 29.

A full review of the events leading up to this action was presented by Manager Samuel Berger and his representative, ILGWU attorney, Berger again stated the union's demands for a 50 per cent wage increase, the reduction of the work week from 42 to 40 hours and the establishment of a health fund through payroll contributions by the employers.

The truck workers gave every sign of being anxious and ready for decisive action to win their demands. They listened with keen interest as Schlesinger told how the union had used all means of achieving an agreement without resort to a walk-out and how the persistent refusal of the employers to submit the differences to arbitration and conciliation made authorization of the strike necessary.

Determination of the actual strike date was left to the union's officers who, in the past ten days, have conducted a survey of industry conditions upon which they will base their decision.

The executive board of Local 102 has determined that it will not time the strike call before Jan. 1, inasmuch as it has found that existing industrial conditions would lead the employers should the call to strike be issued before that time.

It is well known in the industry that the employers stand to lose little by a tie-up of their facilities in 1946 inasmuch as excess profit windfalls and reduction of tax rates after the beginning of the new year constitute a premium on business done after that date. The officers of Local 102 have therefore decided that the strike should be postponed. It will be guided by these considerations, which are further substantiated by the fact that the industry faces the holiday season and the regular slack period makes the month of December a less appropriate time for calling the strike than January would be.

With full ILGWU aid pledged and with the means of tying up the entire garment industry secure in their hands, the truckmen are proceeding with preparations to strike right after the New Year. The only turn of events that might prevent such action, which from all indications will be swift and decisive is a move by the employers' association to reach a settlement with Local 102 before the year ends.

## CLOTHES TO EUROPE URGED BY DUBINSKY

Reiterating the request to all ILGWU members made earlier this month to give garments support to the second used-clothing drive for the needy peoples of the world, this action, which was launched under the chairmanship of Henry J. Kaiser, President Dubinsky, in a statement this week, asserted that "every item that can be spared for these sufferers overseas may mean the saving of a life."

This nation-wide clothing collection is scheduled to start on Jan. 7 and continue through Jan. 30, 1946. Pres. Dubinsky's statement reads as follows:

"I have asked the members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to give freely of their usable clothing to the forthcoming Victory Collection drive under the leadership of Henry J. Kaiser and sponsored by President Truman, the second country-side drive for used clothing for overseas relief.

"I am quite confident that our members in every community will respond to this call in the same spirit of liberal giving which marked their country-side drive of clothing in the first drive last spring."

## British Sailors Ever Glad for ILGWU War Gifts

British seamen will always remain grateful to the ILGWU for the union's aid their behalf during the war, according to a recent letter from American Ambassador John B. Winant to President Dubinsky. The Merchant Navy Club, erected in London through funds contributed by the ILGWU in the early period of the war, still has the union's gift charter hanging on the wall. It is reported by Mark Star, ILGWU educational director.

The club has now become largely self-supporting. Dances are run regularly, shows are staged and other club facilities are maintained through joint contributions made from the Welfare Fund. As a result of the success achieved by the club initiated by the ILGWU's financial aid, several similar clubs were established in British ports.

Ambassador Winant's letter to President Dubinsky, dated Nov. 8, reads as follows: "At the last meeting of the Merchant Navy Club on Oct. 11, 1945, it was determined that, with the end of the war, the club would probably continue under British sponsorship. In considering the financial readjustment, the Council of Management voted to transmit to your organization an expression of appreciation for the funds which had been supplied by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The text of the resolution follows:

"The amenities provided have been a boon to the seamen during the war years and the Council of Management is, and always will be, under a deep debt of gratitude to these American institutions for assistance so spontaneously afforded. "I would like to say personally that it has been a great honor to represent you on the Council of Management of the Merchant Navy Club in your generous giving to the merchant seamen who carried on so gallantly throughout the war."

## "The Final Conflict"



## From the Hub City to the Russian People



Boston Joint Board, with generous employer cooperation, recently donated 400 shirts for war-weary Soviet seamen. Contribution ceremonies show (left to right): David Presson, Century Sports-wear manager, Isaac Foss, shop chairman, Mrs. Nora C. Flynn, Russian Relief representative, and Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, Joint Board manager.

## Zimmerman Visits Reich, Awaiting Okay to Poland

Having completed his mission to Sweden where, in behalf of the Jewish Labor Committee, he had been instrumental in getting that nation to agree not to force thousands of Jewish refugees to return to the homelands whose concentration camps they had fled, Vice Pres. Charles B. Zimmerman, manager of Local 25 Dressmakers, early this month reached Berlin as the J.L.C. announced that his itinerary to Europe had been extended to include Germany.

Zimmerman left Paris on Nov. 29 after delays in obtaining the papers necessary for clearing his trip into Germany and possibly Poland as well. He arrived in Frankfurt on Nov. 30, which is so far as train service was available at that time and was received by Col. George L. Cassidy, of the American Military Government.

The next day, Zimmerman, escorted by Col. Cassidy, left by car for Berlin, 400 miles away. On Dec. 3 he was in the German capital, having traversed sections of the American, Russian and British occupation zones on his journey.

In Berlin, where he was awaiting possible passage to Warsaw, Zimmerman described his impressions in a letter to New York, saying that he was awed by the extent of Allied bomb damage throughout Germany. Faded in many places, he observed the treatment of displaced persons and studying the steps being taken to rebuild the formerly powerful German trade unions.

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Pushing further into western Maryland, the Maryland-Virginia District early this month signed an agreement with the Cumberland Undergarment Co., Cumberland, Md., a new firm which is expected to employ between 400 and 700 workers within the next few months. It is announced by Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler, supervisor of the district.

The pact, which is the first ILGWU contract for a garment shop in this part of the country, provides an hourly minimum rate of 35 cents for operators and pressers, a designated number of holidays with pay and a 4 per cent health and vacation fund. Modeled on the terms set by Local 62, Undergarment Workers, in the New York market, the Cumberland pact is the result of skillful work achieved with that local through the efforts of Louis Muller, assistant executive secretary of the ILGWU.

Notified two months ago by Angela Bannace, manager of the Maryland-Virginia District, the Cumberland firm was taking initial steps toward starting production. Bannace immediately called on Vice Pres. Samuel Shore, manager of Local 62, to determine the status of the firm in the industry. As a result of this groundwork, a series of contracts with the management, which Assistant Secretary Bannace, Manager Shore and Manager Bannace represented the union, an

## 750 More in Montreal ILG

Almost 750 new members have been recruited in the course of recent organization drives conducted in all branches of the Montreal garment trade. The clean-cut drive has gained 133 new members, the dressmakers have swelled their ranks by 556 new members and the embroidery workers have added 40 new members to their ranks, according to a report by General Organizer Bernard Shane.

## '88 SERIES OF PACTS INCLUDE RAND SHOP

Agreements with a group of manufacturers of rubberized necessities which expired in the latter part of December, 1945, have been renewed through a series of negotiations conducted since that time by Local 88, Rubberized Novelty Workers. It is announced by Manager Daniel Minavitz. All terms of the pacts are retroactive to Sept. 15.

The new pacts reduce the work week from 48 hours to 37½, set a \$22 minimum, provide general increases between 8 and 12, designate five holidays with pay and enlarge the welfare benefits by 3½ per cent vacation terms that were previously established.

Manager Minavitz stated that similar terms will be sought for another group of agreements scheduled to expire in February, 1946.

Another significant achievement reported by Local 93 is that the organization drive it launched several months ago has hit full stride with the signing of an agreement with the Rand Rubber Co., Brooklyn, N. Y. Employing more than 300 workers, this firm was considered to be the key objective of the campaign. Faded in many places, he observed the treatment of displaced persons and studying the steps being taken to rebuild the formerly powerful German trade unions.

The Rand Rubber contract, embodying standard union terms, was signed after two months of negotiations reached a stalemate. Louis Stember, assistant executive secretary of the ILGWU, joined Minavitz in conferences with the Rand management. Full agreement on the terms of the pact was reached shortly thereafter.

## Triple Play Nets N. Y. Standards Before Md. Plant Opens Its Doors

agreement was signed even before the firm began operations.

Of special interest in the pact is the provision setting graded minimums for learners. These provide a \$16 minimum during the first month of employment, \$17 after the second month, \$18 after the third month and regular increases thereafter until the minimum of \$24 is reached at the end of a 24-month period.

## Umhey Leads 'Dime March'

In recognition of the ILGWU's "Dime March" for the "March of Dimes" every year, Frederick F. Umhey, the union's executive secretary, has been designated as chairman of the campaign. Umhey will support the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The campaign will take place during next month, with its climax set for Jan. 30, the birthday of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, who sponsored the drive during the 12 years he occupied the White House.

A letter from Secretary Umhey to all ILGWU locals and joint boards calls attention to Roosevelt's identification with the fight against infantile paralysis and to the fact that "the cause which was nearest and dearest to his heart."

The letter outlines the steps by which the workers in each shop under the union's control will be asked to make donations in the 1946 campaign. The letter says:

"Last year the contributions so generously made by our members constituted by far the largest amount raised by any labor organizations. We have to face the pace in each of the 12 years in which we have participated in such fund-raising activities."

# ILGW Asks Permanent USES To Ease Employment Pinch

The Senate last month rejected the Administration's plea that the United States Employment Service be retained at least until June 30, 1946. The bill, as passed by the Senate, requires the return of the employment offices to the states within 120 days. It differs in some particulars from the bill as passed by the House and the matter now will go to a joint conference committee of the Senate and House.

However, since the House has already voted for the return of the employment services to the states in 30 days, it would seem to be a foregone conclusion that the U.S.A. will soon come to an end unless the measure in its final form is vetoed by the President.

The ILGWU, along with other national labor unions, has consistently opposed this step and has urged the permanent federalization of the employment offices. On the very day of the Senate vote at a meeting of the Metropolitan Chapter of the International Association of Public Employment Service in New York City, there was a panel discussion on the subject, at which Goodman Block of the ILGWU Research Department spoke in favor of federal retention. Other supporters of this stand included Richard Pfeiffer, one of the directors of the U.S.E.S.

In his speech, Block pointed out that in every serious emergency the operation of the employment service had always been taken over by the federal government, citing the examples presented by the First and Second World Wars, the depression period and during the Second World War.

He said this was done because the states proved wholly incapable of handling the problem adequately. The federal government, declared Block, has a direct responsibility for the veterans who need placement and counseling, for the youngsters who enter the labor market, for the handicapped worker, for those discriminated against in employment because race, color, creed or foreign origin. The placement of claimants for unemployment insurance is but a small fraction of the work of such a service, Block emphasized.

The return to the states of the employment offices will put a detriment to the proper functioning of the work of such a service, he said, showing that state boundaries limit and the limited jurisdiction of the states will seriously impede any kind of efficient performance of these duties. Finally, he declared, the high standards prevailing in so many states with respect to wages and working conditions, and the lack of coordination and cooperation which is possible in a single system will prevent a real employment service from developing and operating with most necessary.

If we are to have full employment, Block concluded, the government itself must operate the employment service, because the employment service is the only agency with the authority to break down rigidly in localizing jobs regardless of state boundaries and in supplying employers with qualified labor wherever they may be needed.

*Shopping Time at Herald Square is GREENWICH SAVINGS time*

**THE GREENWICH SAVINGS BANK**  
BRANDY—4th AVE.—AT 30th ST.  
Also Open  
Thursday Evenings 5 to 8  
Member Federal Reserve Bank

## Shore Hailed On 15th Yr. as Local 62 Mgr.

The 15th anniversary of the return of Vice Pres. Samuel Shore as manager of Local 62, Undergarment Workers, was celebrated with a luncheon at the U.S.S. on the very day of the Senate vote on the bill to return the employment offices to the states within 120 days.

More than 500 chairladies and their assistants, together with numerous ILGWU officials and members of the union's General Executive Board, rose to applaud those when he was introduced by Mabel Durham, formerly a member of Local 62's executive board and now on an ILGWU scholarship at Harvard University.

The gala which both the industry and its workers have won under Shore's progressive leadership were stressed in speeches by Rose Schneiderman, president of the Women's Trade Union League, Judge George Meiner, impartial chairman of the industry, and Mitchell Schneider, president of the Allied Underwear Association.

President Dubinsky, who had just returned from Washington as an AFL delegate to the Labor-Management Conference, praised Shore by calling attention to the fact that all constructive proposals made at that conference had already been tested in the experience of the garment workers' union.

"In this room," Dubinsky stated, "filled with the chairladies, the union officers and the industry representatives of the undergarment industry, we have the best example of what can be achieved in the way of industrial progress through the strength of union organization and the willingness of employers to cooperate. Every group in the industry is the better for such cooperation as has been built and nurtured by Manager Shore through his many years of service."

First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini stressed the manner in which the close cooperative spirit has lent new impetus to the non-industrial activities of the Local 62 membership. In behalf of the Italian-American Labor Council, he accepted from Mabel Durham, acting for the local, a check for \$2,500 in support of the Council's relief work in Italy.

## Reunion in San Diego



After two years in the Navy, the paths of Blaine Perryman and Robert Campbell crossed at the California naval base. Both ILGWU members were active participants in the Appalachian Mills strike, Knoxville, Tenn., several years ago.

## L.A. BOND CAMPAIGN PACED BY LOCAL 266

Climaxed a drive to raise over Los Angeles member an investor in Victory bonds, Local 266, Sportswear Workers, in cooperation with the Pacific Coast headquarters of the ILGWU, staged an elaborate demonstration of faith in the United States government with the purchase of more than \$100,000 worth of bonds at a rally in the Embassy Auditorium on Nov. 25.

The program featured radio, stage and screen personalities, including Sylvia Sydney, Monte Easter and his recording artists, Nick Sant, comedian, Pat O'Shea, Irish tenor and Newell and Raymond, acrobatic comedians.

Among the speakers were Labor Coordinator William Ring of the Treasury Department, Vice Pres. Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director, and Manager Cliff Mayer.

An unusual aspect of the drive was the posting of prizes to be awarded to the three shop stewards whose shops purchased the greatest number of bonds. The prizes, consisting of bonds, are to be given on the basis of greatest sales in proportion to the number of workers in the shop. At the Olympic and Trading Post shops, the management volunteered to purchase twice as many bonds as the amount bought by their employees. Single purchases of \$10,000 were credited to the owner of the Norma Lane shop, and of \$5,000 to the proprietor of Takah of California shop.

Under the direction of Capt. Abe Blum, on loan to the ILGWU by the Air Army for the Victory Loan campaign, many AFL unions joined in Local 266's drive, with purchases totaling over \$30,000.

# THE NEWS AND VIEWS

By JOHN R. MARTIN, Southeastern

The general shortages of material and uncertainties of price control have not proven to be a complete cure in Dixie. While these factors have retarded the growth of ILGWU membership in the Southeast to some extent, they have also prevented the rapid expansion of the garment industry forecast by Chambers of Commerce and other industry development groups.

All the Southeastern locals are being maintained in a healthy state. Wages have been increased and the union's position is becoming generally satisfactory.

The chief factor of interest to our general membership is the growth and development of the current industry in the South. Much has been said about these developments, and if only half the things prophesied on this score were to come true, it would present a serious threat to all other existing markets. Here are the facts of the situation today, based on actual production and observation by the Southeast District's organizational staff, whose duties carry them into every Southern state and into almost every town of at least 500 population.

## War Boom Over

The ending of hostilities brought about a fairly wide collapse of the wartime industry boom in the South. As shipyard, aircraft and munitions plants folded up, there was a general slackening of the war propaganda in every Southern state. The Georgia Power Co., keynoting all such activities, began a national advertising campaign to recruit workers to the "Business Week," "Fortune," "Life," "New York Times," "Modern Industry," "The Wall Street Journal," "The Nation," "The New Yorker," "Commercial and Financial Chronicle," and the "Manufacturers' Record," telling all the advantages offered to new workers.

This type of promotion is nothing new for the South. During the war of course, when the South was funded with camps and war factories there was a considerable amount of this propaganda. It is now being toned down of that line of propaganda. Before the war, most of it had been directed at the rather large manufacturers. Today, most of this propaganda is concentrated on plants employing less than 100 workers. As the Georgia Power Co. says in its advertising: "A friendly native-born people in Georgia's excellent small towns make up a reservoir from which to draw intelligent, adaptable and well-trained. Through American tradition is bred-in-the-bone and they have a deep-rooted conviction that 'a better day's pay' overcomes 'a harder day's work' in the small towns of Georgia you will find plenty of elbowroom, plenty of sunlight, a mild year-round climate that combines the best of both industry and production costs." And W. C. Cram of the Georgia Agricultural and Industrial Development Board adds a specific suggestion by saying that "apparel manufacturing is suitable because it is apparently ready to move at the present time."

## Wide Promotion On

The Southern Railroad and the Federal Reserve Bank also have departments concentrating on the job of bringing industry to the South. Most of the states as well as the larger cities maintain boards of commissions, all more or less subsidized by public funds, who are engaged in this undertaking. Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina has introduced a bill which would authorize the federal government to appropriate \$5,000,000 to be used in promoting Southern industry. The title of this measure is the "Industrial Development and Under-Development Areas Act of 1945," and it is significant that Senator Bailey is trying to get his proposal in with the Public Employment Bill despite the fact that he is opposed to the latter measure.

The extent that this propaganda has resulted in the apparel industry is indicated by the statement

made in a case last month concerning a lease involving a New York sportswear manufacturer and a large New York retailer. The interested parties went so far as to demand that the manufacturer should not be allowed to leave the state until they were only too eager to escape and repatriate their belongings, which had been eliminated in this city.

The present material shortages and the uncertainties of the future minimum wage law have so far acted as a brake on the real development of this trend. Many have been estranged. In some cases, bonds and other stock-selling devices are already under way to help buy or erect factory buildings. In many instances, garment manufacturers have gotten industrial locations and have even started to recruit workers. There has not yet developed any considerable actual production.

## Union Staff Alert

The organizing staff of the Southeastern District has already investigated and made preliminary contacts in a few hundred of these situations. Mississippi, for instance, seems to be trailing behind the other states. Yet, because of the state laws which permit the issuing of tax redemption bonds for such industrial development, Mississippi is not far behind the other states because of the larger-type units that will be involved.

The first of the year promises a great deal of new material. The advantages which will no doubt throw this whole situation into high gear. Our organizational staff has been well briefed on the job ahead and no organized effort is being carried on the message of organization and collective bargaining to these hosts of new garment workers in this country as the ILGWU met the challenge in other new territories where workers were being exploited by the sweat-shoppers, so we will meet that challenge in the South.

## American Unionists Bid Britain Comply On Palestine Debt

The American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, which speaks for organized labor in this country on the Palestine question, last week called on British Prime Minister Attlee to halt "the present unjustifiable practices in Palestine which defile the sacred ideals that we hold in common and to fulfill immediately our obligations to the Jewish people." Max Zaritsky, chairman of the Committee, is president of the United Hatters and Millinery Workers Union.

The Committee's demand that Britain reverse her present policy on Palestine was contained in a cable sent by Zaritsky and signed by Zaritsky and by Sidney Nagler, vice president of the ILGWU, who is administrative committee chairman.

## The VICTORY LOAN is on!

### Shore Duty 15 Years—and Going Strong



Vice Pres. Samuel Shore congratulated by covey of shop chairladies on behalf of 500 others as Local 62, Undergarment Workers, celebrates his decade and a half of management with luncheon at Hotel Roosevelt on Dec. 1. (See story.)

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## Warrior Visits His Dressmaker Friends



Just back from European theatre of operations, Lieut. E. R. Ashtor, 7th Armored Division, drops in during lunch hour at Harold Dress shop to chat with Clara Weisman and express personal appreciation for union members' loyal service on home front.

## Joint Bd. All Set to Achieve Victory Goal by Year's End

In response to an emergency telegram from President Dubinsky calling upon all divisions of the ILGWU to step up the Victory Loan drive, Vice President Julius Hochman, general manager of the New York Dress Joint Board, called a special meeting of the entire staff last week.

Murray Gross, to whom Hochman delegated the job of mobilizing the organization in the drive, addressed the assembled business agents and officers, stressing the vital importance of the campaign and the necessity of quick action to bring it to a successful conclusion. The New York's current effort to obtain a 20 per cent wage increase for the workers of the industry must not be permitted to divert attention from this vital commitment of the union, it was emphasized.

Partial reports of the progress of the drive were given, which clearly showed the necessity of stepping up activities in the remaining three weeks. All of the assembled officers pledged themselves to get down on the job immediately to make up for lost time.

President Dubinsky's telegram, communicated to the staff meeting, reads as follows: "Secretary of the Treasury Vinson informs me that success in reaching the national R Bond quota of \$250,000,000 in the Victory Loan drive is vital to this nation's welfare and its government's financial program. American workers are the key to success in this drive. I ask officers of all local unions and Joint Boards to call on their members during the present month to do everything necessary in their plants and communities to put the Victory Loan over the top before Dec. 31."

## Local 89 Donations Top \$32,000 in 1945 Aid Home, Abroad

Local 89, Italian Dressmakers, through its own Initiatives and Labor Causes Fund, contributed more than \$32,000 for philanthropic and relief work in the period between the beginning of the year and November, 1945, according to a report issued by First Vice President Louis Antonicini, general secretary of the local.

It was pointed out that the contributions from this fund are in addition to the aid given to activities in which Local 89 has participated through the Dress Joint Board. The following is a list of the donations exceeding \$200 that were distributed during 1945: Polish Jewish refugees (through the Jewish Labor Committee), \$11,922.66; opening of an orphanage in Rome (through the Italian-American Labor Council), \$5,000; Deborah Tuberculosis Sanatorium, \$2,500; Los Angeles Sanatorium, \$1,150; Has. \$500; ORT, \$200; Denver Bazaar, \$250; Italian Welfare League, \$240; Mazoni Society, \$500; Italian democratic movement (through Mrs. Marion Rosenthal), \$500; Alfred E. Smith Memorial, \$1,000; Vocational Foundation, \$500; Young People's Italian Socialist Federation (through "La Parola"), \$1,600; "La Parola," \$600; Medical Aid for Italy (Dr. Castiglione's hospital), \$1,600; American Committee for a Free Spanish People, \$250; Italian-American Labor Council, \$1,750; Central High School of Needle Trades, \$200; Jewish War Veterans, \$500; Women's Trade Union League, \$200.

## "Club 22" Applauds Crosswalk Attack On Landlord Lobby

Frank Crosswalk, general organizer of the ILGWU and member of the New York City Housing Authority, presented a detailed examination of the present housing crisis in a talk sponsored by "Club 22" of Local 22, Dressmakers, on Dec. 5. Crosswalk was vigorously applauded as he called for immediate action to relieve the present housing shortage and urged consumers and trade unionists to join in blocking the efforts of landlord interests seeking the elimination of OPA rent control.

The talk is a special sponsored meeting by "Club 22."

## N. Y. DRESSMAKERS

## Fannie Jokel Leaves After Long Service

President David Dubinsky led a string of high union leaders in paying tribute to Fannie Jokel, long-time officer of Local 22, Dressmakers, and business agent of the New York Joint Board, at a farewell party given in her honor at the Hotel McAlpin on Dec. 8. The luncheon, sponsored by the Joint Board, marked the occasion of her retirement after many years of service in the organization. It is significant that she is to get married.

It was a real old-timers' get-together, for Fannie Jokel is a veteran militant of Local 22, one of that small band of loyal, devoted unionists who held the fort in the dark days before 1933. She became an officer of Local 22 in 1928 and served continuously since. All those who spoke in praise of her and her long service to the union spoke not in their official capacities but as friends and associates who had shared with her many a hard struggle, many a victory and many a defeat. They included President Dubinsky and Emanuel Haskell, his secretary, Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the Dress Joint Board, Vice Pres. Louis Nagler, manager of Local 39, Cutters, Nathan Margulies, assistant manager of Local 22, Max Gussman, Joint Board department manager, Margaret di Maggio, of the Joint Board staff, and Max Blostein, head of the Joint Board Organization Department. The latter acted as master of ceremonies.

The distinguished speakers, as well as the group of officers and active members present, were united in the high tribute they paid to Fannie.

## Impartial Chairman Weighs 20% Demand

The demand of the New York dressmakers for a 20 per cent increase in wages was submitted to arbitration on Dec. 4 as Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the New York Dress Joint Board, placed the issue before Harry Uviller, impartial chairman of the metropolitan dress industry, after direct conference with the employers had proved futile. The agreement of all parties Jan. 2, 1946, was set as the day for the case to be argued before Mr. Uviller.

## Local 22 Supports N.Y. Firemen's Plea On 8-Hr. Legal Day

An appeal to outgoing Mayor LaGuardia to take steps to see that sufficient funds appropriated to put into effect the firemen's eight-hour law was addressed last week by Local 22, Dressmakers, acting upon the request of the Uniformed Firemen's Association, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

"We are shocked to learn," the dressmakers' message runs, "that New York's fire-fighters are working a twelve-hour day, seven days a week, despite the fact that the law entitles them to an eight-hour day. This is apparently due to the failure of the city to appropriate funds for sufficient firemen to make it possible to secure a decent work-week to the men who daily risk life and limb to protect us from the ravages of fire. We earnestly appeal to you, in the name of the 25,000 members of our organization, to do what you can before the expiration of your term to secure adequate funds to cover the cost of instituting the statutory eight-hour day for firemen."

Fannie Jokel, and in extending their heartfelt best wishes to her for many happy years ahead.

**DRESSMAKERS!**  
Members of Locals 89, 22 and 60

**DO NOT LOSE YOUR SICK BENEFITS — REPORT ANY ILLNESS IMMEDIATELY**

According to the rules of the Health Fund, sick benefit payments are calculated from the day on which the sickness is reported to the union office. If you don't want to lose any sick benefit, be absolutely sure to report any illness immediately. Report in person, by messenger or by telephone. Any delay on your part may mean a loss in sick benefit.

## Fond Farewell for Fannie



About to get married, Fannie Jokel (center) receives regretful adieu and warmest wishes at party in her honor at Hotel McAlpin on Dec. 8. She leaves post as New York Joint Board business agent after militant and devoted union service since 1928. [See story]

## DRESS JOINT BOARD

## MINKOFF LAUDED AS EMBROIDERY UMPIRE

An enthusiastic testimonial to his service as mediator in a recent strike of Swiss embroidery workers was received last week by Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board, from Philip Siegel, secretary of the strikers' organization.

"I am writing," the letter says in part, "to express to you our deep appreciation for your skillful handling of our negotiations which resulted in the settlement of our strike. I know that I cannot do justice to our gratitude."

Some time ago, Minkoff received a call from the industry and Trade Unionists through the Swiss Embroidery Workers' Union is affiliated, requesting him to see a committee of strikers in their organization. It transpired that these workers were on strike because of the refusal of the employers to live up to a pledge in their collective agreement providing for the reduction in working hours from 29 to 27 a week within two months after the end of the war. Negotiations had gone on for several months but had produced no results and a strike had broken out which at that time had already lasted several weeks. The committee of strikers appealed for assistance.

Minkoff promptly pledged that the dressmakers would work with Swiss embroidery made under such conditions. When this news was announced, the embroidery employers became deeply concerned and Joseph Greenberg, president of the employers' association, approached Minkoff with the request that he serve as a unofficial mediator in the conflict. His efforts proved so successful that in two or three days the strike was settled to the full satisfaction of the workers involved. The United Hebrew Trades has also joined in expressing thanks to Minkoff for his active role in bringing about this settlement.

# TOMORROW

By LUIGI ANTONINI  
First Vice Pres. ILGWU

As a whole, Italo-Americans are very much concerned about helping Italy as much as possible. Some people, however, are busy creating doubts as to the fate of the help sent Italy. It is intimated that part of the merchandise disappears in New York even before being sent across; it is rumored that it disappears at the port of debarkation.

Therefore, to put an end to these false alarms, it is desirable to have the actual facts related by two Italian relief authorities who were in the United States last week on a brief visit. They are Dr. Giovanni Canaperis, a director of public health and representative of the Italian Government on the National Committee for the Alleviation of Relief (ENDEI), and Giovanni Vicentini, a director of this commission.

## Control Is Balanced

Here is Dr. Canaperis's statement on the nature of ENDEI:

"The ENDEI was organized in September, 1944, to utilize the means at the disposal of the Italian government, the Catholic church, the labor unions and the Italian Red Cross to help the authorities dispatch the relief sent by the American Relief for Italy. The National Committee of the ENDEI is comprised of representatives of the government, the church, the General Confederation of Labor and the Red Cross. Local committees are similarly organized in the provinces and in the towns.

"I can assure you that no one group predominates over the others in allocating relief. We all agree on the decisions made. The cost of distribution from the unloading of the goods at the port to delivery at its destination is undertaken by the government.

"The labor organizations are naturally always interested in the distribution made and we are really helped by the cooperation of their representatives, particularly in the designation of the needy families and in the actual delivery of the material."

## Material Fully Guarded

Here is Mr. Vicentini's description of how the material sent to Italy is handled and protected:

"American Relief for Italy here in New York as well as in Italy use the utmost care in the loading, transportation and unloading. I can assure you that the same care is exercised in Italy and that our personnel in charge of receiving and transportation takes its job to heart.

"Just to cite an example, when a ship docks in Naples, where relief material from America is usually unloaded, our personnel places itself so as to supervise all the operations in the unloading. One person is in the hold, one on the dock and one on the wharf. The person

on the wharf sees to it that the material is loaded on our trucks—that is, the trucks the American Relief for Italy sent. After the trucks have been loaded, they leave for the storehouses under the protection of the carabinieri.

"Even when the merchandise is transported from the main storehouse in Naples and Rome to the local storehouses, it is done in the presence of our officers and it is always under the protection of the carabinieri."

## No Regional Favoritism

Mr. Vicentini has given the following explanation of the basis on which relief from the United States is allotted among the various regions in Italy:

"When a plan for the allotment of relief was set up, the needs of the different regions was kept in mind; precedence was given to the devastated areas."

"By Sept. 30, we had helped approximately 2,185,000 people throughout Italy. And Sicily was not forgotten. To be precise:

"1. The needs of the people in Sicily were considered immediately after those of the devastated areas."  
"2. After a series of discussions in Palermo, Messina, and Catania, and some civil, political, religious and labor authorities agreed upon a plan for the allotment of relief in Sicily. The requests made at that time have all been fulfilled."

"3. The total number of people helped in Sicily has been 130,000, divided as follows—15,000 in Messina, the most ruined province; 23,000 in Trapani; 20,000 in Palermo; 30,000 in Catania; and the remainder among the other provinces."

"No matter how great the help given the people of Sicily and throughout the rest of Italy seems, it represents only a small fraction of what is still needed. The people helped are only about 10 per cent of those who should be helped. We have shown on television, we weighed objectively, uninfluenced by pressure of any kind, the dire needs in the different areas."

## All Recipients Share Alike

Mr. Vicentini has indicated how the material is safeguarded until it reaches those whom it is intended to benefit:

"We have developed a good system. For instance, in distributing clothing, we have ascertained that

the most satisfactory method is that of making packages for men, women, children and infants. Every package, made in the local storehouse under our supervision, has the same value so as to avoid any discrepancy. When possible, each package is wrapped to prevent the person from evaluating the contents. While we prepare the packages, the local committee draws up the list of needy families. The lists are then posted in the town so that the work of the committee can be verified and complaints made if necessary.

"When the lists are ready, our trucks deliver the exact number of packages to the addressee who, in turn, signs a receipt which is forwarded to the ENDEI."

"Such a system enables the person receiving the package to exchange or sell it if he only makes use of it. It is not a case of 'black market.' This system eliminates unequal distribution, which would be the case if the first person on the list were to make the first choice, leaving those further down the list the discarded clothing."

"The psychological effect is even greater than the intrinsic value of the gift. It assures our peasants, our laborers and all the poor people bent on surviving and on reconstructing their country that they are not alone in the world; that they have reason for hoping; that their brothers and friends in America are helping and will continue to help them."

## Pressers of Local 89 Okay Antonini, Note Reports on Progress

Reports presented by Luigi Antonini, general secretary of Local 89, and Salvatore Noto, manager of the presser branch of the local, were approved with only one dissenting vote at a meeting of the pressers on Dec. 5.

Antonini presented an account of the present status of the negotiations for a 26 per cent increase for the dressmakers and estimated the cost of which present labor difficulties, including the General Motors strike, were likely to affect these negotiations.

Summarizing the high points of the report he is to present this month at the meeting of the General Executive Board of the ILG he emphasized that this report will show the membership of Local 89 resuming its upward climb.

Manager Noto's report described the steps being taken by the pressers branch to place returned servicemen on jobs with utmost speed. It was also noted that in the period from September to November, 1943, the pressers' branch provided 671 days of work for its unemployed members and recovered \$1,265 in back pay. Gaetano Cammarone presided at the meeting.

## First-Hand Report on GI's in Pacific



Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler (left), back from mission at Far East military posts to describe home front to American troops, emphasized they are not anti-labor when he spoke on "Voice of Local 89" during radio interview on Dec. 8 with John Gelo, assistant manager of Italian Dressmakers' local.

## Warming the Hearts of Italian Noddy



International solidarity was glowingly personified when First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini accepted \$2,500 check from Mabel Durham, former head of executive board of Local 62, Undergarment Workers, and now on ILGWU Trade Union Fellowship at Harvard University, as the promised local gift for relief of Italy's war victims on Dec. 1. (See story, page 4)

# PHILADELPHIA WEEK BY WEEK

By SAMUEL OTTO, V.P.  
MANAGER, NEWS SERVICE

A general increase of 10 per cent is featured in the series of gains won last week for the 300 workers employed by the Pioneer Suspender Co. in a renewal of its pact with the union. The negotiations which brought about those improvements were conducted by a committee that included Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Business Agent Al Alevitz, Joseph Corbett, shop chairman, Margaret DeLo, Helen Butler, Marie Bad, Tillie Dever and Nathan Stukman.

The Pioneer gains, which became effective on Dec. 5, also included two additional holidays with pay, improved price settlement techniques and higher base rates in certain departments.

The negotiations for the supplementary agreement, which were carried on over a number of weeks, also resulted in the granting of an additional 1 per cent of employer contributions to expand the health benefits for the Pioneer employees.

The Pioneer Suspender Co. was organized in 1937 and since then under the careful supervision of Business Agent Alevitz, standard union conditions have been enforced in the shop. In November, 1944, the War Labor Board approved a 10 per cent increase retroactive to July 1 of that year.

## Wider Health Benefits

Amendments of the health system bringing additional benefits to

## Local 25 Welcomes

### Kreindler's Return

A warm welcome-home party for Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler was given by the executive board of Local 25, Blousesmen, in the form of a dinner at the Hotel Astor on Dec. 4. The event signalled the completion of his six-week mission as labor member of a War Department-sponsored committee that held discussions with over 140,000 soldiers and sailors to inform them of the job picture on the home front.

Carrie France, president of the local, acted as mistress of ceremonies. "We greet Manager Kreindler with all affection," she said, "not only because we are glad to have him back with us again, but because we are proud of the way in which he served our government on this trip across the opposite side of the world. His work there has increased the great prestige which our union already enjoys."

Among the speakers were President David Dobbin, Fred Vincent, Luigi Antonini and several leaders of the employer associations

members of the Philadelphia Joint Board locals were announced by Isidor Melamed, director of the Health Insurance Fund, on Nov. 28.

The waiting period has been shortened so that sick benefits will be paid after the first nine days of reported illness instead of the first 11 days as heretofore.

Sick benefit of \$15 a week will be paid for a period of ten weeks instead of eight weeks.

Tubercular cases will be dealt with in the same manner as all other sick benefit claims. The flat payment of \$200 cash in lieu of sick benefits is abolished. The union will continue to arrange for placement of tubercular patients in sanatoriums where necessary.

The Health Insurance Fund Committee approved the changes at its meeting on Nov. 7.

## Victory Loan Records

In the first three days of the Victory Loan drive, members of Philadelphia Joint Board locals purchased more than \$150,000 worth of \$200 Roosevelt Memorial Bonds.

"Before this drive is over, we expect our members to hit the half-million dollar mark in their bond purchases," Vice Pres. Otto said in announcing the record sales.

First reports of bond purchases showed the following shop records: Giovanni Bros., \$14,500; L. A. Sevel, \$5,000; Rosenbergs & Plach, \$2,000; Busch, \$3,600; Levienov, \$5,000; Paramount, \$10,000; Rodolph & Margard, \$8,100; Beusart, \$2,200; Bome, \$6,375; Neigebusch, \$4,925; Vogan, \$3,000; Kneller & Berg, \$2,500; Peim Garment, \$17,000; Lermer, \$2,600; Goldman & Fisher, \$11,250; Willis & Schneider, \$29,000; Adella Dress, \$14,000; Emborn Dress, \$4,000.

## Local 45 Service Gifts

The gift packages that Local 45, Pressers, has been sending to its members' sons and daughters in the service have brought letters of appreciation to the union from the four corners of the globe. The packages contain coats, shirts, pajamas, candy and nuts. One of the letters recently received arrived from Sgt. Israel Tenack who is stationed at one of the Japanese islands.

Those who swell ranks of religious freedom combat against America. AFS

## "THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89"

The Most Popular  
ITALIAN RADIO HOUR

Symphony Orchestra and  
Opera Singers of International  
Fame

## Luigi Antonini

First Vice President, ILGWU,  
and General Secretary of Local 89  
in his weekly program on labor  
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EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

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# COLORED PEOPLE Bigger Office in Union City

## Spring Prices Set

In view of the flood of Harry Clark Imperialism of the Hopkins, Imperialism of the demand for a wage increase. Prices on these things have therefore been set as high as the old rates for the time being. However, the Clark Board has reached an understanding with the employer associations that when the Imperial chairman's decision is handed down, the increase is to be applied retroactively to cover the entire period of spring line production.

## 2 More Shops Organized

The organizing drive of the Clark EOT is going along without any let-up. We have had our first party and the goal is to complete organization of Clark shops in every part of the territory under our jurisdiction. Shortly but surely we are succeeding in extending control over shops where it was once thought impossible for the union to gain a foothold.

## Local 130 Answers Back

When the Freehold, N. J., "Transcript" recently published an editorial attacking labor. It probably did not expect to get discredited so quickly as it did. But Bernard Friedman, executive secretary at Local 130, took immediate action. After his day's work in the office, he sat down one night and wrote a detailed, point-by-point reply to the paper. The letter was as convincing as it was pointed in full. For example, in analyzing one part of the editorial, he wrote:

"It says when wages of organized labor become too high millions of unorganized workers earning less than \$30 weekly and school teachers earning \$100 or even less, as also a month, suffer. The solution for them is obvious and it certainly is not lowering wages for others but, in they themselves organizing and getting higher wages for themselves."

Taking up another assertion in the editorial, the letter claims up an important charge.

"You say that labor's best friends are employers and they should grow closer together, so labor can share profits in prosperity and take cuts in depression. I suppose General Motors, who say profits are most labor's business, would favor only half your proposition."

The letter concludes as follows:

"For every abuse by labor you can find its counterpart in industry. It does not help the situation by printing editorials that are flagrantly one-sided."

We congratulate Bernard Friedman and Local 130 for having such a competent spokesman.

## ESKIN WORKERS GET \$15,000 IN BACKPAY

After almost one full year since the Clark Division of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department began its effort to secure an increase for the workers of the E. Eskin shop, Camden, N. J., success has been achieved. By agreement with the Morris W. Haft management, jobbers for the Eskin shop, its 180 workers will receive an increase of \$1 a day starting with the New Year. It is announced by Vice Pres. George Rubin, manager of the EOT Camden Division.

In addition, they will share \$13,000 back pay. This sum represents the settlement the union has worked out with the employer. Pending retroactive pay for the period since Dec. 18, 1944, when the application was first made to the Regional War Labor Board at Philadelphia for the increase and was rejected. As a result of this rejection, the employer became indifferent to the matter. The union, however, persisted steadily

Locals 148 and 149, Union City, N. J., have opened new headquarters at 2221 Bergenline Ave. It is announced by Manager William Altman. The new address will be held around Christmas time.

As in the past, Local 133, which is comprised of Union City's blacksmiths, will share the office with the other two locals.

The new quarters, consisting of 1,300 square feet of space, are decorated and furnished in highly modern style and include a general business office, meeting room, an auditorium and offices for the manager and business agent. These quarters will be used to serve some 2,000 members of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department in the Union City area.

Vice Pres. Harry Ward, director of the EOT, inspected the new quarters on Nov. 28 and, before a group of officers and executive board members of the three Union City

## Doctor in Station Island Acts on EOT Sick Claims

ILGWU members in Staten Island now have an additional physician on the list of doctors who are authorized to certify sick benefit claims under the union's health and welfare plan. He is Dr. B. Rothman, 181 Victor Boulevard, Staten Island.

Health, which the effect a number of the degree to which the ILGWU has become an integral part of the community's life and a concrete testimony of the cooperative spirit which binds the relations of the many branches of the women's garment industry represented by these locals.

The new office is located on the main thoroughfare of Union City in the center of the garment manufacturing district. As Director Ward remarked, its fluorescent lighting system serves to illuminate the union's great program to give the EOT began its campaign in Union City in a dark and stormy night headquarters a dozen years ago.

## LITTLE INTER

HARRY WAHDEL, EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

## EOT Asks Pay Increase for 500 at Maidenform Plants

In an effort to pave the way for a projected wage increase at the Maidenform Brannier Co. of Perth Amboy and Bayonne, N. J., the Eastern Out-of-Town Department has scheduled a conference with representatives of the firm this week.

The request for the meeting was made by Israel Horowitz, assistant manager of the EOT, last month in behalf of more than 500 members of the ILGWU employed in Maidenform's two New Jersey plants.

In his letter to the firm, Horowitz said the action was being taken in line with contract provision contingent upon the modification or elimination of the Little Steel

formula. "The formula was lifted by President Truman in regard to such contracts as that in effect at Maidenform on Aug. 18 shortly after V-J Day."

The text of the letter reads in part as follows:

"We therefore suggest that a conference be arranged at the earliest possible time for the purpose of negotiating general wage increases and other modifications of our agreement."

"This request is made in accordance with the provision of our agreement dated July 17, 1944, and May 23, 1945, for both the Perth Amboy and Bayonne plants which reads in part as follows:

"In the event that the present wage establishment policy shall during the period of this agreement, be amended or modified to the extent of altering or changing the principle of the Little Steel formula so as to permit further increases to workers in the employ of the company, the union shall have the right, but not prior to three months from the date of the execution of this agreement, to request the company to consider further increase. Such request shall be made in writing; and if made, the parties hereto agree to confer promptly and to endeavor to reach an agreement."

On Nov. 19, the firm replied that it would meet with union representatives on Nov. 26.

## 9 N. J. UNDISHOPS NET \$2,500 BACKPAY

More than \$2,500 in back pay is being distributed to the workers in nine undergarment shops in Paterson and Newark under the supervision of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department and by Organizer Herman Blova in Newark.

In Paterson, the workers of the Gosselin Undergarment Co. have received \$1,004 and those in the Paterson Mills have netted \$508. These workers are members of Local 161. In Newark, the workers of seven shops have received the following amounts: M. Diamondstein, \$300; Rose L. Undergarment, \$200; Theodore C. L. Lomandini, \$197; D. Rosenberg, \$82; Maxwell Undergarment, \$231; Oscar Manis, \$244. These workers are members of Local 222.

## Two Blouse Plants Enter Union in N. J.

The organization of two more New Jersey blouse shops employing 74 workers is announced by the EOT office.

The Leysor Blouse Co., Orange, N. J., has been organized by the union. It is announced by Organizer Chiverni, manager of Local 144.

The firm, which manufactures blouses for department stores, is in Paterson, the Ross-Fit Manufacturing Co. employing 36 workers, has joined the blouse association and is now working on the terms of the industry agreement, according to Organizer Harry Bronstein.

## So. River Cracks Bond Record



Displaying the Japs, this South River ILGWU quintet rides the cap captured by U. S. Marines on Iwo Jima. (Left to right), Eleanor Zamorevich, Lillian Robbins, Anna Krug, Rose Majewski and Nellie Weglar.

South River, N. J., is one of those American communities that doesn't forget its obligations. During four years of war it worked and sacrificed for victory without stint. Now remembering the tasks that still remain ahead, it is out to finish the job with a bang by topping its already impressive records of previous bond purchases.

At 11 A.M. on Dec. 3, all workers left their shops, all retail establishments suspended business, all children quit their schools to gather in the square at the center of the city where, for the eighth and final time, all segments of the community were staging a bond rally.

Acting as chairman of the South River Victory Loan Drive, Simon Baumrind, manager of Local 148 and 137, had arranged to have a Japanese tank captured by the United States Navy, brought into the square. If had come rattling into town earlier in the week and, on Dec. 3, this amphibious monster became the platform from which Manager Baumrind made his appeal to buy bonds.

The bond committee which

Baumrind heads is comprised of representatives of all groups in the community, including business interests, trade unions, employer groups, schools and churches. It was in their behalf that Baumrind reviewed the record set in earlier bond drives in which the people of South River responded with all-out enthusiasm and support.

## Conn. ILG Shows Solidarity To AFL Machinists on Strike

The 3,000 striking AFL machinists at the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Co., Stamford, Conn., received an encouraging reply to their appeal for aid from the ILGWU almost before their spokesmen had finished their plea at a meeting of the executive board of Local 347, New Haven, Conn. It is reported by Organizer Lou Cronin.

Richard Malben, representing the machinists, who are seeking a pay increase and closed shop terms, had just finished his report on the strike when Elmer Kramer, president of the local and chair of the Goetz & Kilham shop, came forward to laud over a contribution of \$43 voluntarily contributed by workers of that shop to the cause of the striking machinists.

The aid given by the Goetz & Kilham workers is announced as only the first installment of further

The local drive will reach its climax the evening of Dec. 20 with a special show and bond rally at South River's Capital Theatre. Following the rally at which a United States Navy band will highlight a program of varied entertainment, a midnight dinner for all of South River will be held at ILGWU headquarters in town.

assistance that is now being gathered in a campaign which is circulating sealed containers among all organized workers in the region. The inspiring example of trade union solidarity afforded by the action of the Goetz & Kilham garment workers came about through the further discussion of the strike issue in Cronin and Chairmen Kramer. Under the latter's guidance, the workers in this shop promptly decided to do their bit in helping their machinist brethren to gain their demands.

# Prayer For Now

By HAVA KHARCOFF

Give us the confidence of the proving thing;  
The fortiveness of the new blade, thrusting  
Green, green into the raw of hairy eyes.

The unfailing vent of the fresh bud, bursting  
Into bloom at the prompting of each season.

And give us the child's unquestioning faith  
To never clear-eyed, in spite of clear reason,  
That man should learn to most man  
Clean-shaven—not too late.

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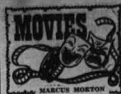
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"VOLANDA AND THE THREE" is such a delightful musical that it can't be recommended too highly as a recreational tonic for moviegoers.

The story is a pretty charming one, telling of the romance between a wealthy but naive young woman and the clever pickpocket whom she regards as her "guardian angel."

But it serves as a wonderful vehicle for Fred Astaire, Lucille Bremer, and their superb tap-dancing team.

The whole production is characterized by an exceptional degree of imagination, taste and color.

Costumes, costumes and costumes! The sets are all handled with charm, elegance and full pictorial value.

And the music, blending superbly with the fascinating dances, is certainly worthy of special applause.

This is a real hit. Perhaps it will mark the beginning of the end for these musical films that have been caving over the screen with such a long time.

"CAPTAIN KIDDO" gives Charles Laughton a rip-roaring opportunity to establish his place in the blood-thirsty buccaner ever to haunt the Spanish Main -- and he makes the most of it. Exciting, unimpeachable and so that they had cool sea as well as a smartly-cut, U. S.-made duff and all.

"Newfound" we are not seeing our share in the important Latin-American markets for brought by and for want of. It is clearly confined to the local market to develop trade in fashions, women's and children's apparel, cosmetics, etc. With the possible exception of Mexico, to some extent, the market for all the Latin-American nations.

"The market is there and the larger exporters are more or less able to take a stab at it, but the smaller manufacturers who are unable to gain most, who must be seen in contacting the potential market. They cannot afford to maintain individual representatives and sell abroad and lack the means to develop the local market with its peculiarities and unfamiliarity with the far-flung markets which is also stock-in-trade with the buyers of South America."

"For some time now I have been suggesting to interested government agencies, trade leaders and business people a plan by means of which the United States could carry out a market to the very doorstep of the Latin-American business."

"My suggestion is that the United States should set up a consulate, preferably in Rio de Janeiro, the chief city of the Pan American and Domestic Trade Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce."

order to acquaint the Latin-American buyers with American products in such a way that the small company can afford to enter the market along with big established ones. It would suggest further that the following steps be taken:

"1. The distribution of a magazine compiled especially for Latin-American use and published in Spanish and Portuguese. The dual value of such

magazines is that they would serve as a medium for the exchange of information and as a source of information for the Latin-American market."

"2. The establishment of a Latin-American market in the United States, where the small company can afford to enter the market along with big established ones. It would suggest further that the following steps be taken:

"3. The establishment of a Latin-American market in the United States, where the small company can afford to enter the market along with big established ones. It would suggest further that the following steps be taken:

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By WILL ALLEN  
Special to "Journal"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—There are some curious developments in the two big CIO strikes—in auto and steel. What's going on is very much like the famous "hidden ball" play in football. And it will pay to keep your eye on the ball.

The Ford Motor Co. called the CIO signal on the new play by demanding and obtaining the United Auto Workers' agreement on "company security." This was followed immediately by a similar demand from General Motors, where a strike has been in progress for over three weeks. And on the same afternoon that the United Steel Workers' 175-man Wage Policy Committee met last Tuesday in Pittsburgh to set the date of a nationwide steel strike, the American Iron and Steel Institute was taking a third of a page in the Washington papers to sound off on the same theme. The steel corporations belonging to the Institute are today 10 per cent of the workers in the steel industry.

The phrase "union security" is well known to every trade unionist. It means the organization of a struggle, trade unionists have sought as one of the objectives of their efforts to establish the security of the union by the exclusion of the bosses to crush them. No one will deny, of course, that the problem of safeguarding their union is one of the most real and most acute for workers. And this has given added meaning to the current demand for "union security."

To date, very few American unions can feel that they have really achieved union security. Among those who obviously have not achieved such security are the auto workers' union and the steel workers' union. It is possible to believe -- as has been alleged by many responsible persons -- that despite their lip service on the subject of union recognition, the giant General Motors and United States Steel corporations are secretly seeking to crush the unions in their industries. However, it is a fantastic inference -- as one might deduce from all this loud talk of "company security" that the auto and steel unions, bedeviled as they are by their own insecurity, entertain any idea of trying to crush the companies. And yet that is the notion that all the far-fetched nonsense which has been filling Washington for the past week is trying so hard to propagate.

As remarked in this column before, the problem is really in the public relations. Walter Reuther, vice president of the United Auto Workers, opened the subject properly by showing that General Motors can well afford to give its workers a 20 per cent increase, keep auto prices at their pre-war level and still enjoy the most profitable year in its history. And that reality is the sole issue. For a long time, Reuther's efforts in hammering away on this one point have been very much in the public eye. Other unions picked up the same issue, and on the same basis, for it is one that is common to most industries in the United States today. Philip Murray is trying to do the same job in the case of the steel workers. Nevertheless, by more deft handling of public relations, the auto and steel magnates have managed to bring the spotlight of public attention away from the real issue. They have been able to focus it on the phony issue of "company security" with such success that in the case of the Ford Motor Co., the UAW has found it expedient to agree to a system of paying fines for company employees who undertake actions on the part of its membership.

If this Ford agreement goes through as projected, it will put UAW members \$3 a day that

## Mgr. Ryan Awards Given Bishop Sheil and Philip Murray

The first Monsignor John A. Ryan Award, set up by the Committee of Catholics for Human Rights as an annual prize to the outstanding clergyman and layman of the faith, has gone to Philip Murray, president of the CIO, and to the Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, auxiliary bishop of Chicago. The award is given to the American Catholics who have contributed most to the defense of human rights and to the furtherance of international amity.

Monsignor Ryan, who died last September, was a leader for over four decades in the fight for justice in all the economic and social fronts in this country, and was an outstanding force of reaction and special privilege.

Bishop Sheil has been highly praised for his work in improving community life and is the founder of the Catholic Youth Organization and the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council, which brings together people of all denominations to discuss common problems.

Philip Murray was selected for his vigorous campaign against racial discrimination in the ranks of the CIO unions.



SEAMAN

## BOOK FRONT

MEHAR SPOCHANDLER

LAROR TODAY AND TOMORROW. By Aaron Levenstein. Alfred A. Knopf, \$2.75.

Sitting amidst tomorrow morning's headlines, Mr. Levenstein's study of the present and possible future of labor relations in the United States is an enlightening guide through the cross-currents and counter-currents of present tensions to what may very likely be the forms of their resolution the day after tomorrow. As one-time union educator and labor lawyer and more recently as a member of the editorial staff of the Research Institute of America, he has had opportunities to study labor-management contacts on the different levels at which they manifest themselves.

In this work he is particularly in-

terested in gauging the changes in labor relations that have resulted in the past half-century years from our experiences in the defense and wartime periods. In pursuing this theme, he uses the case history of the Montgomery Ward case as the text for examining the various actions of government, trade unions and industry that have led us to our present difficulties.

While the author sometimes strains to preserve the device of making the Ward case a mirror of all aspects of current labor problems, this expedient does lend his account a degree of continuity that even succeeds in compensating the often contradictory policies of the three parties involved in industrial conflict—labor, management and government.

For there are now three parties to the tug-of-war over labor conditions and standards, as Mr. Levenstein carefully demonstrates. He carefully documents the process by which the traditional two-sided fight has become a three-cornered contest. It was inconceivable—and labor was among the first to recognize this—that the nation could wage war on the military fronts while tolerating free-for-all battles on the domestic industrial front. Organized labor put its most effective weapon in lock just as government fashioned new instruments of control and appointed the men, each with his own baggage of economic prejudices, to wield these controls.

With labor split in its own ranks, the contests broke up in even more than three ways as the battle-front over basic issues shifted from the pocket-line to the hearings room. The old test of strength between organized labor and organized management gave way to administrative and judicial procedures by which issues over union security, wage stabilization and manpower controls were handled.

With the end of the war, according to Mr. Levenstein, organized labor found itself at a disadvantage. Among the changes that had been affected during the war years, the most important were the entry of government as an active participant in the management-labor contest and the blurring of the traditional lines that have hitherto delimited the area of conflict between employers and employees.

The government's role of umpire had subtly changed to that of participant. The mechanics of man-

## Nuremberg

By MAX FREES

Deeper than death itself slinks the black rocks of a lie;  
How terrible is the irony in a dying breath.

How they must stare, the ghosts of all those butchered ones  
Who filled the pits and dungeons of the camps of death.

Never forget those humble ones who froze and bled and burned  
Because of those who were so arrogant and proud and high;  
Near the midnight lamp of the dead in the gloom,  
For death itself can never slink so deep as 'N' H.

taking industrial peace involved recommendations, penalties and legalisms devolving from precedent to precedent. Enmeshed in the new processes, with the strike weapon withering, organized labor came out of the war to face a whipped-up public opinion demanding no return to the days of picket-lines; public opinion also had formed widespread illusions that to restrain those conflicts was the same as eliminating them.

Organized workers, as always unreasonable enough to want decent standards and just a little bit more, have reverted to type and the nation once again strains to adjust by picket-lines. This time war-born issues have been added to those carried over from earlier times. The convergence of labor, management and government are now in flux. The unions, he holds, cannot escape their responsibilities. We have arrived at a point where the American people "must now delegate certain economic powers and, by an economic bill of rights, withhold others."

All of these issues, and more, Mr. Levenstein weighs and measures in his breezy but scholarly sound review of events and policy-making. The convergence of labor, management and government are now in flux. The unions, he holds, cannot escape their responsibilities. We have arrived at a point where the American people "must now delegate certain economic powers and, by an economic bill of rights, withhold others."

The balance between freedom and security must be consciously struck or it will be made blindly. Drift in on the side of reaction. The time for moving forward from harping to control may soon be upon us.

## "T'was the Night Before Christmas . . ."



Those American women who live in the rural areas of the South have a very special interest in pressing for enactment of President Truman's proposed compulsory health insurance plan. Yet it is precisely from that region that the most vigorous opposition can be anticipated. Tradition, especially backward, with a long history of struggle against progressive legislation, the rural American of the South has not yet learned to look upon Washington as a source of any form of aid other than special tariffs or farm subsidies.

Truman's plan calls for the construction, through federal assistance, of hospitals, health centers

to examine the facts so far as infant mortality is concerned. There has been a general advance, a most remarkable advance, in pre-natal and post-natal care, with the result that, while 13.8 children under the age of one year died in the United States in 1925 for every thousand who were born, the proportion had sunk to 43.4 per thousand by 1943. Progress at this impressive rate is something of which American medicine and the American people at large can be very proud. But in the Southern States the death rate of children under the age of one is still far too large and is shrinking at a most distressing rate that of the nation as a whole.

In Alabama, for example, the 1943 death rate for children under one year was 50 per thousand live births; in Arizona, 48; Florida, 42; Georgia, 40; Kentucky, 40; Louisiana, 40; North Carolina, 40; South Carolina, 36; Tennessee, 40; Texas, 34; Virginia, 32; West Virginia, 33; and in New Mexico, it was as high as 49.

So far in mind that these figures are in contrast with a national average of 43.4 per thousand live births. In other words, the whole South, despite the progress which has been made, is certain of its retention of a still far behind the rest of the nation in the most elementary of health services—that of the care of the pregnant woman and her offspring.

The position of the colored woman is especially grave. Over the whole United States, the infant death rate per thousand of live births is 48 for non-whites—a disastrous condition which cries aloud for some immediate action—and which demands explanation. That explanation is not difficult to provide, and it holds true for both white and colored in some localities. The cash income of the Negro in the South is far too small for any significant part of it to be spent in doctoring. That, plus the unsanitary and overcrowded housing conditions and the utter helplessness of the colored people's lives, leads to an almost complete absence of medical care, even during child-birth. Yet tragically enough, the infant death rate among colored people is higher in the cities than it is in the country, contrasted with a reverse condition among white people.

For non-whites, the infant death rate is 66 per 1,000 in urban areas compared with 44 per 1,000 in rural districts; while for whites the urban rate is 38 and the rural rate is 40. Of itself, this provides a complete answer to those who claim that the Negro's condition of life in the cities is superior to what it would be in the country.

The Truman plan will not eliminate the economic misery of the Negro. But it will mitigate it in significant ways. It will enable even the poorest income group among us to have full access to all the medical and hospital care it needs, paying for it out of a national pool to which we shall all contribute out of our wages and salaries.

Passage of the proposal is a social necessity. Only by its nature, a conducted health insurance plan can we begin to deal with this basic—and easily contended—with issue. National health requires national planning to that end. Our children, our children as yet unborn, have the right to demand that we assume their right to live.

increasing our exports of women's permanent exhibits in Latin-American centers for the convenience of local businessmen.

"Along with the continuous studies made by this clearing house in the field, it is suggested that the needs and desires of the Latin-American people be stressed and suggestions made by the representatives in the field to the manufacturers in the United States. North American companies working individually have often failed to grasp this principle whereas the British and German salesmen have used it most successfully.

"Small manufacturers should be acquainted with this service and with the multiple benefits of the clearing field clearing-house and to make use of its collected and classified information as well as its facilities for the distribution of printed material, such as fashion notes.

Mrs. Pelger emphasizes that the clearing-house project she is suggesting would differ in no way from the traditional procedure of the international mercantile center which is being set up on a non-profit basis in New Orleans.

The New Orleans project, which is being backed by leading business men of that city and of the Mississippi Valley, is planned as a center in which many items will be displayed and sold under one roof by North and South American manufacturers. Mrs. Pelger favors furthering the marketing procedure of the Latin-American countries.

As yet, as we have previously noted, the pressure for exporting additional markets for the New York State is low, inasmuch as the demand for the product is still in excess of the supply. Nevertheless, it may be relevant at this point to refer to comments made by the Federal Executive Board in its report to the 1944 convention.

The OEB at that time noted that export markets could well provide a basis for absorbing production capacity in the industry when such a situation once again arose. The possibility of trade with the Southern Hemisphere," it stated, "is especially attractive because the needs of the Latin-American people are the reverse of ours. The development of such markets would provide an outlet for end-of-year stock and might even permit year-round production of both spring and fall merchandise."

The English and the French are actively carving out their shares of the Latin-American trade. It is a determination that is astounding for a nation that prides itself on the efficiency of its production and the aggressiveness of its salesmanship, we are doing little indeed.

Such our much desired products

# WEST

MEYER FELSTEIN, Southwest Regional Director

## Umpire at Forest City Broadens Time Rates

Acting on the employers' challenge to his right to arbitrate on matters dealing with the wage rates of time-workers, Dr. A. H. Clements on Dec. 3 overruled the position taken by the attorneys for the Forest City Manufacturing Co. His decision is of such far-reaching scope that it not only affects the earnings of time-workers in the Forest City plants but, by implication, also benefits the rates of workers coming under similar terms in other contracts.

Some time ago, the union had filed requests with Dr. Clements who is arbitrator under the terms of the existing agreement, for wage increases for cutters and other time-workers employed in the Forest City plants at St. Louis, Mo., Oak Grove, Mo., Platteville, Mo., Centralia and Duquoin, Ill.

The arbitrator ruled that it was the intent of the parties to the agreement to make periodical adjustments in the wage scales of the time-workers. In addition, his ruling clarifies the fact that the agreement does give the arbitrator the right to rule on a wage increase for the time-workers. His decision on this point reads as follows:

"It is beyond dispute that the signing of the contract was contingent upon the verbal assurance given to the union that the wages of time-workers would be adjusted on the basis of their ability and productivity. To now hold that time-workers' wages are not subject to arbitration because they are not specifically mentioned in the contract would be construing the contract without reference to the circumstances surrounding its signing and without trying to determine the minds of the contracting parties."

"Obviously, it would be gross negligence on any arbitrator's part to attempt interpretation of a contract without a consideration of the surrounding circumstances. It is further clear to the arbitrator that the wages of all time-workers, including cutters, are now subject to arbitration."

The request by the union for these wage increases is based on the fact that, while increased productivity had resulted from the time study methods introduced in the Forest City plants, the time-workers' wages have remained unchanged. Moreover, the company has denied the right of the union to bring the differences over its request to arbitration.

## NLRB Election Seen At Brown Garment; Back Pay Arranged

John L. Bursi, field representative for the National Labor Relations Board, conferred with representatives of the Brown Garment Manufacturing Co. and Cline Goddard of the Southwest District staff in Little Rock, Ark., on Nov. 29 and 30 in an effort to work out arrangements for an NLRB election at this plant, as requested by the union several months ago.

At the same conference, arrangements were made by the NLRB agent for the payment of back pay due to a number of Brown workers as the result of a recent directive by the Board.

## Missouri Garment Agrees On 1946 2-Week Vacation

The terms of vacation benefits for the employees of the Missouri Garment Co., Kansas City, Mo., have been extended to include, in 1946, two weeks of paid vacation for those employed by the firm at least five years. This added benefit was agreed upon at a conference on Dec. 2.

## Local 389 Walves Party For Xmas Cheer to Poor

The indigent and aged of the country farm near St. James, Mo., will be the recipients of an entire share of Christmas cheer this year as the result of action taken by members of Local 389 at their last meeting. Members of the local voted to furnish their annual Christmas party and to use the funds generally expended for that purpose to buy baskets of food for the folk in the institution.

Anna Belle, Josephine Chambers and Dena Dicksworth comprise the committee that will deliver the baskets on Christmas Eve in the name of the union.

Expressing their full spirit of the season, Local 389, at the same meeting, voted also to make a contribution to the St. James Community Chest.

## ST. LOUIS PROLONGS TERMS FOR 30 DAYS

Moving to formalize a breakdown in negotiations between the union and the representatives of the cloak and dress industries of St. Louis, negotiators for the manufacturers and the workers agreed on Nov. 28 to extend the terms of the present agreement for a period of 30 days from Nov. 28.

During this time negotiations will continue, with the union representatives seeking full acceptance by the employers of demands for wage increases and other improvements put forward by the union.

## Louis Walter Shop To Set Minimums On Job Value Base

The establishment of a system of job evaluation with the setting of minimum hourly wage scales based on skill was the subject of thorough discussion at a conference between union representatives and the management of the Louis Walter Cloth Co., Kansas City, Mo., on Dec. 1.

A special committee will be named to define the skills required in the various operations involved in garment production and to determine minimum pay rates on the basis of these definitions.

At this conference it was held that minimum hourly wage scales should be based on skill and the average hourly earnings of the workers on both skill and speed.

Full employment here spells prosperity and an enduring peace to all mankind.

## Handsome Handicraft Trio



This St. Louis group is typical of many members throughout the Southwest District who have become enthusiastic students in the arts and crafts classes conducted by the union.

## Stott Co. Picketers Steadfast Despite Winona's Icy Winds

All production workers of the Stott & Son Corp., Winona, Minn., struck on Nov. 28 following authorization of this action at a meeting of the workers held the previous evening. Production at the plant is at a complete standstill. Enthusiastic picketing has been maintained since that time.

The Central Labor Body of Winona, in spite of severe winter weather conditions, all signs indicate that the most workers are determined to remain away from their machines until their requests are met by the employer.

The immediate cause of the strike was the refusal once again of the firm either to satisfy the demands of the workers for cost-of-living wage increases and establishment of a union shop or to submit these demands to arbitration.

The Central Labor Body of Winona, fully aware of what the firm's attitude means and the significance of the drastic action taken by the picket workers, voted at its last meeting to extend all aid and assistance to the strikers.

## Bettloun's Vacations To Be Paid In 1945 By Arbitrator Ruling

Under the terms of an arbitrator's ruling, all workers employed by the Bettloun Sportswear Co., Kansas City, Mo., for at least one year must receive their 1945 vacation payments before Christmas Day, 1946, despite the fact that the firm recently closed its plant for a number of weeks.

This decision was handed down on Dec. 1 by Dr. Joseph M. Kamau, who had been appointed arbitrator by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Nichols on the request of the union. The firm had consented to this arbitration procedure.

## Winona Pickets Defy Both Employer and Weather



Cheerful but determined, members and officers of Local 418, Winona, Minn., hold the line in near-zero temperature as they strike to bring Stott & Son management to terms after firm refused union offer to arbitrate.

## Southwest Shorts

The employees of the Huskey Manufacturing Co., Fredericksburg, Tex., received \$1,200 in back pay as the result of a 3 per cent increase provided for by a recently revised agreement.

Members and officers of Local 214, Houston, Tex., are mourning the death of Mrs. J. C. Campbell, one of the most devoted members of the local.

Otto Goller, of the district staff, attended the convention of the Arkansas State Federation of Labor as representative of Local 386, Little Rock.

The past with the new Smart Matron shop operated by the Braemar Co. of Peoria, Kan., provides wage rates and vacation benefits similar to those prevailing in the Kansas City cloak shops. Elizabeth Kimmel was in charge of these negotiations.

Mrs. Henry Taylor, president of the Kentucky League of Women Voters, spoke on the 65-cent minimum wage bill at a recent meeting of Local 268, Henderson, Ky.; Louise Melton was chairlady.

Locals 415 and 423, Winona, Minn., are offering a course in applied psychology, which is directed by Annie Lee Hewitt of the union's staff and taught by William Schoening of the city's Board of Education.

Sam White is heading the union negotiating committee, which is seeking an agreement in behalf of the workers at the new Karvee-Walker Co. plant, Kansas City, Mo. More than 150 members and guests attended the vacation and gathering held by Local 344, Dallas, Tex., last month at the YMCA. The proceeds of which will be used for the "Monthly reception given to new members of the local's Negro branch."

Handicraft creations and textile paintings made by members of the Artistic Club of Local 185 were exhibited before the Home Economics class of the Warrenton, Mo., high school last month.

Erlie Reams, assistant to Sam White, manager of the Kansas City Joint Board, has been placed in charge of Local 223, Richmond, Mo.

Elizabeth Fischer of Local 214 is the new secretary of the Kansas City Joint Board. She succeeds Stella LaFolter of Local 138, one of the ILOUW pioneers in Kansas City, who recently retired from the garment industry.

The cutters at Liberty Procks Co., Kansas City, Mo., have contributed their time and skill to the cutting of garments which the successful Red Cross will distribute to European war sufferers. Liberty employees have also contributed to the Community War Chest and recently raised \$25 for the benefit of the Louise Landwehr, shop chairlady, whose home was destroyed by fire.

## Choristers Tunny Up for Christmas Caroling



Some members of the IGLWU Chorus of Local 249, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., seen at recent rehearsal for coming Yuletide program.

## 2 Scranton Strikes Score at Cooperman, Ashley Plants

About 300 garment workers in the Scranton District struck the plants of two employers early this month in successful drives to win full enforcement of contract terms, it is reported by District Manager Israel Zimmerman. One strike hit the Sam Cooperman Co., Scranton, and the other attacked the Ashley Dress Co., Wilkes-Barre.

The Cooperman firm owns four plants, two of which, the Penn Dress and the Scranton Sportswear, both in Scranton, have been operated as non-union shops while the Peckville Dress, Peckville, Pa., and the Ryan Dress, Ryan, Pa., function under IGLWU control.

As a result of the mounting dissatisfaction on the part of the un-unionized workers over many accumulated grievances, continued delays in completing agreement negotiations and the existence of the non-unionized plants, the 200 Peckville and Ryan plants employees finally walked out on Nov. 23.

The next day the employer arrived in New York, where he conferred at union headquarters with Director David Ginzgold, Field Supervisor William Ross and Manager Zimmerman. An agreement was reached on general terms of the pact, which is to include stipulated minimums and health and vacation benefits. In addition, the employer agreed to extend the pact to cover the workers in his two Scranton plants. Practically all of these workers had already joined the IGLWU.

Back in Scranton on Dec. 4 the employer met with Manager Zimmerman and a committee of workers to adjust the grievances. The workers returned to their machines the following day. It is expected that the agreement covering the four Cooperman shops will be signed by the end of December.

### Ashley Workers on Alert

In Wilkes-Barre, 100 employees of the Ashley Dress Co. struck on Dec. 4 after the employer had stalled on adjusting a number of contributions to the health and vacation fund and his failure to administer strictly to the 35-hour week in accordance with the terms of a Dress Joint Board agreement provision on overtime rate.

The Ashley workers returned to the plant on Dec. 12 after the employer, at a conference with Director Ginzgold and Manager Zimmerman in New York, had promised to make the adjustments sought by the workers.

The union has issued instructions that complaints are to be registered with it by the workers in case the employer fails to carry out his commitments. Plans for another walk-out are being held in readiness pending the fulfillment of the conditions that the Ashley management has now agreed to.

## SHAMOKIN 100% IGL AS K & G SIGNS PACT

Keeping the record of IGLWU organization at 128 per cent in the Shamokin District, Supervisor Sol Greene and Manager Oscar Newman have negotiated a contract with the new firm of K & G Dress Co., which employs 35 garment workers in its plant at Shamokin, Pa.

These workers will receive health and vacation benefits, a 35-cent minimum and will have their piece-rates adjusted upward.

Newman and Greene, together with Organizer Louise Platt, completed negotiations on the terms forming the basis for extending the contract covering the 75 workers employed by the Danville Sportswear Co., Danville, Pa.

A supplementary agreement continues the pact signed last year under which a 5 per cent wage boost was approved by the War Labor Board. Cutters are now to receive an increase of 7½ cents an hour and all other time-workers will get a boost of 10 per cent. Minimum wages are set at 35 cents an hour and employer payments to be increased from 7½ to 4 per cent.

## IGL Servicemen Dances Are Resumed in Boston

The regular Friday evening dances for servicemen and civilians given by the Boston IGLWU Educational Department were resumed last week. The committee in charge of arranging the Friday evening affairs consists of Anna Meconates, Bania Meconates, Margaret Saneur and Mary Tompkins.

## Schindler Is Secretary Of Hazleton Body

Harry Schindler, manager of the Hazleton District Central Garment Department, was unanimously elected secretary of the Central Labor Union of Hazleton, Pa., which was organized by a group of representatives of AFL unions at a meeting on Nov. 28.

The new central labor body is planning a large-scale organizational program, including a drive to un-unionize retail clerks in Hazleton. Henry Strehling, an official of the electrical workers' union, is the president of the new labor body.

## Henry Brides Named Brockton AFL Prexy

Henry Brides, manager of Local 342, Brockton, Mass., and general organizer of the Boston area staff, was elected president of the Brockton Central Labor Union last month, succeeding Thomas E. Wilkinson, former secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor. Brides was chosen by acclamation. His election to this post is regarded as a general tribute to the position held by the IGLWU in Brockton labor circles.

A staff member of the union since 1936, Brides helped to establish the IGLWU in Brockton, a city of 80,000 people. He has been a delegate to the Central Labor Union for several years as well as one of its trustees.

## Pacts Renewed for Eastern Isles and N. England Curtain

The renewal of two agreements covering more than 200 workers in the North New England District is reported by Jack Halpern, supervisor of the area.

The new pact with the New England Curtain Co., Pittsburgh, Mass., includes a 15 per cent wage increase and a 5 per cent health and vacation fund which provides for two weeks' vacation with pay. These negotiations were conducted by Henry Brides.

Improved terms in the agreement covering the 200 workers employed at the Eastern Isles Co., Clinton, Mass., include a 5 per cent health and vacation fund and the establishment of a 35-cent minimum.

## Wyoming Valley Ordered To Shift Over to Piecework

Carrying forward its campaign to convert all shops working on a time-work basis to a piece-work basis, the Cotton Garment Department won a signal victory late last month when Harry Uviller, impartial chairman of the dress industry, ordered the Wyoming Valley Apparel Co. to shift over to piecework.

The union representatives referred to the piece-work clause of the collective agreement between the New York Dress Joint Board and the United Popular Association, of which the Pennsylvania Dress Manufacturers' Association is a member, and demanded that the Wyoming Valley Apparel plant change its method of payment to its operators, owners and finders.

In his decision, handed down on Nov. 28, Uviller ordered the firm to pay these workers on a piece-work basis for all garments it produces on the machines on and after Dec. 15, 1945.

## COTTON DRESS DEALER

DAVID GINGOLD, Director

## Pa Dress Mfrs. Ass'n Warned Not to Scab

Charging that a move by the Pennsylvania Dress Manufacturers' Association to break away from the New York Dress Joint Board by severing its relations with its parent body, the United Popular Association, was an "obvious attempt to crawl out from under union control," D-

rector David Ginzgold warned last week that the union would fight to the last ditch any attempt to build a scab empire in the Pennsylvania territory.

Earlier in the month, members attending the convention of the association at Lakewood, N. J., had heard Charles Cherka, president and executive director of the organization, lay such a step and outline a plan for having the separate association thus formed operate under a separate agreement with the IGLWU.

## N.Y. Terms at Rodney Sport

The terms of a contract negotiated with the Rodney Sportswear Manufacturing Co., New Bedford, Mass., last month established conditions similar to those in effect in the firm's New York City plant. It is announced by Director David Ginzgold. To achieve this purpose, Vice Pres. Jacob J. Heller, manager of Local 342, Brockton, Mass., who has jurisdiction over the Rodney plant in New York, cooperated with the Cotton Garment Department in conducting the negotiations.

The pact, which will cover the 50 workers the firm expects to employ in New Bedford within the next few weeks, provides for a 35-hour week and a system of health and vacation benefits that conform to the scope and outline of the Local 105 benefits plan. A 65-cent minimum will be in effect for workers after three months on the job.

Negotiations were conducted by Director Ginzgold, Field Supervisor William Ross and Ross Travis of the Fall River office. When, late in November, Heller notified Ginzgold that the firm planned to expand its facilities by starting operations in New Bedford, Ross Travis visited the plant, together with a committee of workers. Even before operations started, preliminary agreement was thus reached on the terms of work and wage conditions, which were later embodied in the pact.

It was clear to union officers that behind this apparently innocent move was a plan for circumventing union control and undermining wage and work standards of long standing. Cherka's move in the Pennsylvania territory operates under the terms of one or the other of two agreements. Some of these shops are in close commercial relations with the New York Dress Joint Board for which the Cotton Garment Department acts as the enforcement arm.

Other shops in the area, manufacturing a variety of miscellaneous products, including house dresses, are covered by non-New York agreements subscribed to through the Pennsylvania association.

It seemed clear to union observers that the move by the firm of Cherka was for the sole purpose of setting up a separate association which, free of New York controls, would be able to engage in cut-throat competition with employers in the metropolitan market. While these steps do not at present produce the New York line of garments—which makes them to sign a separate agreement with the Cotton Garment Department—it seemed clear that the maneuver had been made from New York was being made so that the way could be cleared to start the New York line of apparel of garments on standards long in the works prevailing in the metropolitan area.

Uviller, backed out against the belief implied in Cherka's statement that the association's purpose could be achieved by setting off one affiliate of the IGLWU against another. He emphasized that the production of dresses in the Pennsylvania territory was under the control of the Dress Joint Board and would remain so.

He branded Cherka's plan as an attempt to start a drive to revive cut-throat competition in the industry said warned that the union would counter with proper and effective measures if such tactics were continued.

In a letter to Cherka, Ginzgold stated: "If you know anything at all about the IGLWU, you should know that we regard today, as we have always regarded, the interests of all our members as well as the interests of our industry as one and indivisible. There is no competitive rivalry between the New York Dress Joint Board and the Cotton Garment Department. They are parts of one organization, cooperating firmly and together in the achievement of common objectives."

## Movie Star Renews With 10% Wage Rise

The agreement with the Movie Star Undergarment Co., Abington, Pa., has been renewed with provisions for a 10 per cent hike in the hourly rate of the 130 workers employed, the setting of a 35-cent minimum wage and improvement in the health and vacation benefits.

Director David Ginzgold, Field Supervisor William Ross and District Supervisor John Uviller were joined in the roll conference with the firm in New York early in December by a committee of workers' representatives. After John Uviller, Henry Strehling, Leslie Schwab, Berrie Redding, Ellen Maloney and Peter P-

**N. Y.**  
**CLOAKMAKERS**

A merry moment at 50th birthday testimonial dinner given to Benjamin Kaplan, manager of Local 117, Cloak Operators, at Central Plaza on Dec. 6. Among the friends and colleagues surrounding Manager and Mrs. Kaplan (center), were Mrs. Salvatore Ninio (left, seated) and Rubin Zuckerman (right), chairman of Cloak Joint Board.

## How Girl Meets Boy—And Hangs On



Members of ILGWU dramatics group, meeting for try-outs and rehearsals every Friday evening, get lesson in expert emotional expression as Kippie Ross (second from left), instructor, shows best way to embrace subject. (See story.)

## Indiana LG Stirs Action on Full Employment, 65c Wage

A large-scale ILGWU educational campaign is underway in Indiana where all locals have lined up for action in support of the Full Employment Bill and the 65-cent national minimum wage bill. Through meetings, post-card campaigns and letters, they are urging the Senators and Representatives of Indiana to get behind these measures and fight for their prompt enactment.

In addition, the ILGWU groups are mobilizing their friends and neighbors in school, fraternal, church and community organizations to take similar steps. All over the state, the locals are helping to focus attention on the urgency of these proposals.

Their efforts are taking various forms. In Local 366, South Bend over 100 members signed a petition addressed to their Congressmen, stating: "As citizens of South Bend, we remember 1940. Many of our families and our neighbors were still without jobs. Reconstruction must not mean going back to 1940. Reconstruction must not mean going back to a 'good business year' with one out of every seven employable in our state out of a job."

A committee consisting of Blanche Cox, president of the local, Lillian Kanes, Martha Brown and Wanda Spawick, recently met with the president of the South Bend Central Labor Union to urge stronger community support in favor of these measures.

At Elkhart, Local 327 likewise got up a petition. After the local's Educational Committee held a panel discussion on the subject, members sent more than 500 post-cards to their elected representatives in Washington.

Local 328, at Kokomo, has stimulated its members to approach their friends in the BNA, bridge clubs, church societies and parent-teacher associations, urging them to write letters and cards in support of the bills. According to Dorothy Thompson, president of the local, the workers at the Sterling-Reliance plant have sent more than 500 cards to Washington and other members have succeeded in getting over 1,000 additional cards mailed for the same purpose.

In Garrett, Local 281, which has only about 100 members, is stirring up the town to the advantages promised by the passage of the two bills, and numerous appeals have been forwarded to Washington by friends and neighbors of the local's members.

The same kind of action is taking place elsewhere. In Local 305, Logansport, Local 277, Indianapolis, Local 380, Shelbyville, and Local 116, Fort Wayne, spread the word, substantiated by facts and logic, that the economic health of the nation and of every single community depends on an important extent upon the quickest possible enactment of the Full Employment Bill and the 65-cent national minimum wage measure.

## ILGWU Center

Textile High School  
1525 N. and 328 Ave.

Thursdays at 6:30 P.M.

Dec. 20: Abraham Weiss on "World, Trade and American Labor."

Jan. 2: Dr. Henry David on "Public Opinion and Organized Labor."

## Eminent Educators Praise Fellowship For 25-Yr. History

The 25th anniversary of the ILO Student Fellowship, which was marked last month has drawn complimentary comments from some of the foremost figures in the nation's intellectual life. A few excerpts from their letters follow:

Prof. Charles A. Beard, historian: "Learning without fellowship may be sterile, may even serve evil causes, but combined with fellowship it is needed more than ever now that our world has become so complicated for us."

Dean Harry J. Gorman, Columbia: "It is a source of deepest satisfaction to know that in these dangerous though challenging times a Student Fellowship functions with in such a spirited and forward-looking labor union like the ILGWU."

John D. Connor, director, Workers' Education Bureau: "The task which workers' education must accomplish in the coming years can be successfully accomplished only with the whole-hearted cooperation of the workers themselves and its success will be limited only by the extent to which workers grasp the opportunities it presents."

Dr. Horace M. Kallen, New School for Social Research: "I recall with great pleasure the statements of the changes in psychology which I held 25 years ago, when you first organized the educational work. This work has now become not only a significant part of the service of the ILGWU to its members, but an important leader and pushforward in labor education for the organized working men of the entire nation."

Dr. Harry W. Laidler, League for Industrial Democracy: "The Educational Department has had great influence not only within the ranks of the ILGWU but throughout the American labor movement."

## Drama, Music Groups Open

Two new activities have been organized by the Cultural Division.

One is a new dramatic group which, in addition to aiming at stage productions, will also seek to demonstrate to members the value and fun that comes from a better understanding of drama in both the theatre and daily life.

Kippie Ross, the director of the group, has had extensive experience with similar classes as well as in her professional performances on stage and radio. Meetings are being held every Friday from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. in the ILGWU Studio, 1718 Broadway, New York City.

The other group is devoted to music appreciation. The class will reveal the growth and development of music from its origin up to the present day.

Yudie Weizman, who will conduct this course, has spent many years in the musical field as a teacher and professional performer. He points out that members of the group need no musical background or experience to profit from the class. Meetings are scheduled every Thursday from 7 to 8:30 P.M. in the ILGWU Studio.

## UNESCO Ushers in Program of World Education



Prospects of new United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization [UNESCO] were discussed at New York Adult Education Council meeting in ILGWU Studios on Dec. 8 by distinguished authorities, including (left to right) Benjamin Fine, New York Times' education editor; Dr. Edward C. Lindeman, of New York School of Social Work; Malcolm Davis, of Carnegie Foundation; and (right) Wilfred Fisher, of New York Adult Education Council; Dr. Houston Peterson, Cooper Union Forum director.

## Brigade Opens Course in Veterans' Rehabilitation

Shifting from its tasks of wartime to the equally urgent responsibilities of peace, the ILGWU Women's Service Brigade is preparing a program to aid in the process of reacquiring veterans and civilians. Working in conjunction with the New York Adult Education Council, the Brigade is setting up a series of classes at which veterans will tell civilians of the effects of military life, and civilians will advise veterans of happenings on the home front. In this way, it is expected that many misapprehensions will be cleared up on both sides and thus lead to a better understanding between the veterans and the organized labor movement.

## UNESCO Link For All Lands, Starr Stresses

Delegates from 44 countries, after three weeks of conference in London, adopted the constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Signed on Nov. 16, 1945, the UNESCO document is based on the charter drafted by the United Nations at San Francisco. The preamble to the constitution emphasizes that world peace may fail unless it is based upon the foundation of "the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind."

The purpose of UNESCO is to raise cultural levels throughout the world and to provide an international basis for educational progress. Its aspiration is to function in the field of education along the lines followed by the International Labor Organization in connection with labor standards. Moreover, in the words of Mark Starr, ILGWU educational director, who served as an adviser to the American UNESCO delegation, it seeks "to make a positive contribution to world citizenship by wiping away the mutual ignorance and nationalist prejudice which have contributed to war in the past."

Soviet Russia failed to participate in the conference at London but is expected to take its place in the organization eventually. Its headquarters will be in Paris.

It is interesting to note that the formation of UNESCO accords with a resolution adopted by the American Federation of Labor in 1943, endorsing the principle of an International Office of Education. The plan already mapped by UNESCO fits definite recognition to adult education, including workers' education and union activities.

The New York Adult Education Council is now engaged in training a large group of discussion leaders who will service the entire metropolitan area. They will guide discussions on various aspects of veteran-civilian relationships in an organized effort to show how ex-servicemen, many of them suffering from the physical or psychological scars of war, may be encouraged to resume their role in the life of the community.

Both men and women are being enlisted to join the Service Brigade group, which will cooperate in this project. The Brigade's decision to invite men to participate in this undertaking is regarded as a measure of the importance attached to the class, as Brigade activities heretofore have been confined almost exclusively to its own membership of women.

These classes will be held at the ILGWU Building, 1118 Broadway, New York City, beginning on Jan. 9. The sessions will start at 7 P.M.

It is explained that all who are interested in this problem are welcome at the first session on Jan. 9. The members of the ILGWU are urged to suggest that any of their friends or relatives, whether affiliated with the union or not, are permitted to enter the course. In this way the Brigade feels that it will be placing much useful knowledge in the hands of those who are aware that the veteran-civilian problem is a task of profound importance to all.

## Local 155 Lecture Eyes Atom Control

The forum conducted by the Educational Department of Local 155, Knifegrinders Workers, presented James Hurty, well-known author and lecturer, as its moving force. The topic on the subject, "Can We Control the Atom?" emphasizing that the problem represented a race between social and scientific survival of the human species.

Local 155's forum is held on Thursdays at union headquarters, 315 Broadway, Brooklyn, at 8:30 P.M.

## KNOW YOUR CITY

Dec. 25 at 2 P.M. Hayden Planetarium (adjacent American Museum of Natural History), 11th St. and Central Park West. Special Christmas program of singing and films. Admission (group fee) 20 cents. Take 127 West Side or 8th Ave. Subways to 7th St. station.

Jan. 5 at 2 P.M. Museum of the City of New York, 140th St. and 5th Ave. Special exhibit on "What's Ahead For Our City." Take 127 Lexington Ave. Bus to 140th St. station.

# with SCIENCE

By DOBOTHY LIEBERMAN

## THE NEUROTIC and THE NORMAL (second in a series)

For many years scientists have used animals in laboratory experiments to discover the cause and progress of certain diseases. In recent years they have begun to use animals to study abnormal behavior. They have been giving neurotic attacks to sheep, cats, dogs and even pigs. Recently some intensely interesting reports came from Johns Hopkins University on the behavior of animals that appear to be suffering from depressed neurosis.

Here is one experiment tried on pigs. A few young pigs were brought into a cage containing apples on shelves. Each time the pigs attempted to get to the apples, the shelves were moved out of reach. The pigs ran, jumped and squealed with increased nervous excitement but no success. Finally, they became worn out and appeared to be giving up. At that point, the shelves were pushed back and the apples were available. The pigs seemed relieved to renew their efforts. But again the apples were withdrawn. This tantalizing procedure was repeated for several days.

### Animals Too Get Neurotic

At last, the pigs could eat no longer. They became depressed and seemed to lose interest in everything. Although they were hungry, they refused to touch food or water placed before them. Even when the much-desired apples were put right under their snouts, the pigs remained listless. They refused even to sniff at the apples. In short, the pigs had reached their breaking point. They were suffering from what appeared to be an attack of neurosis (of the depressed type).

Of course, it is not possible or desirable to conduct such experiments with human beings. But these experiments in animal behavior have a little light on some of the factors that enter into the exceedingly complicated problem of personality reaction to difficult situations. Although psychologists do not believe that human beings develop neurosis in exactly the same manner as animals, do they are sure that each individual, no matter how well-balanced he may be emotionally, has a breaking point.

When a person is confronted with one tough break after another, when he can find no relief from an unbearable situation, he finally reaches a stage at which he cannot stand any more strain. He just cannot go on. Then he "cracks up." He may become depressed and lose interest in everything. Or he may become obsessed with obsessions or with an uncontrollable compulsion to do some meaningless things. Or he may be tortured with terrifying fears.

### Imaginary But Painful

Although physically in fine condition, he will feel weak and complain of vague pains. He will complain of all sorts of physical ailments which are purely imaginary. In extreme and rare cases, a person suffering from neurosis may develop paralysis of his legs or arms or may lose his power of speech or hearing.

But psychologists know that such patients are not faking. They know pigs and men who are temporarily paralyzed because of neurotic fear is just as unable to walk as if the muscles or nerves of his legs and back were injured. People suffering from neurosis are ill and need the kind of help that only a psychiatrist can give. They are mentally ill, but they are not insane. Their intelligence was as high or as low as it ever was.



Recently, a young war correspondent, who had "cracked up" under the strain of battle fatigue but had recovered, wrote an article to express his resentment against the use of the word "psychomotor" to describe the condition of men suffering from battle fatigue. He emphasized that the term "psychomotor" and its more common equivalent, "neurotic," are misleading. Showing that these labels worry the men, frighten their relatives and discourage their prospective employers, he pleaded for a better understanding of men suffering from war neurosis. He, who knew how it felt to be a neurotic, appealed to the public not to treat such men as if they were cured or "touched in the head."

### War Neuroses Curable

And he is right. A person who suffers an attack of neurosis is not out of his mind. He is not in the early stages of what is commonly called "insanity." Neurotic attacks are not inherited; they are not contagious; they are not hereditary. They can happen to anybody. As already described, they have even happened to pigs.

War neurosis is a comparatively simple form of neurosis, sometimes called a "situational neurosis." It is thought to develop as a possible unconscious escape from the conflicts of an unbearable situation. When a person is removed from that situation, his neurotic condition improves and eventually disappears. A person suffering from a situational neurosis usually recovers whether he is treated or not. But he will recover much faster if treated by a psychiatrist.

There is urgent need for adequate psychiatric care of veterans.

## U.S. Meat Now Enough For All Needy Abroad

More than 1,250,000,000 pounds of meat will probably be shipped abroad next year and still leave enough meat for the American people, according to a statement of Agriculture Secretary. "The Department of Agriculture is getting ready to furnish nearly a week's 25,000,000 pounds of meat if they need it," he said.

## Sugar Stays Short But Still Sufficient

There is little likelihood that sugar will be removed from rationing "for some time to come," it is announced by the Department of Agriculture which, at the same time, points out that sufficient sugar was stockpiled for emergency during the first quarter of 1946 "to maintain rationing at present levels." This allocation is 1,100,000 tons, as compared with 922,000 tons for the present quarter.

The bulk of the additional sugar is intended for institutional and industrial uses. Including food processors who have not been able to obtain their full quota because of limited sugar supplies.

## Price Rein Urgency Shown By OPA Orange Squeeze

A vivid and convincing demonstration of the need for continued—and effective—price control was provided in the last few weeks when the OPA, in its haste to throw price control overboard, removed the ceilings on citrus fruits. This action was taken on Nov. 18, just in time to affect the holiday market. Prices immediately soared high into the sky, and complaints began to pour in on OPA offices all over the country. In some areas it was reported that prices on oranges, for example, actually doubled within a few days after the ceilings were lifted.

In spite of the pressure from labor and consumer organizations, the OPA ran true to form by being more hesitant in restoring the price ceilings than it had been in removing them. Then, it took its time in watching the havoc resulting from the citrus fruit price explosion, but finally decided to reinstate the ceilings on these fruits.

At that point, however, the OPA

By BETTA BYER

In sending a message to Congress last month urging the establishment of a national health insurance plan, President Truman declared that the health of the individual is the concern of the entire nation. Accordingly, a nutritional program designed to raise the dietary—and hence health—standards of the country is under discussion in official circles.

There are indications that the program may be so far-reaching as to require special legislation. For, among other things, the plan might involve government subsidization of food consumption by families without sufficient income to afford the ingredients of a decent diet.

Of course, the best means of achieving that goal is still to be found in a real solution to the problem of full production and full employment. That would mean jobs for all workers, thus enabling families to live in enough economic comfort to take care of their food, clothing, and shelter needs. But there is no longer any ground for hope that the full employment law will be enacted with any meaningful provisions in the near future. These patchwork measures to supply the American people with adequate diet must therefore be accepted as representing some degree of progress.

Certainly the problem of nutrition is an urgent national question. The



experience of the selective service system is still recent enough to equate a lesson in itself. Many thousands of men were rejected at the time of the country's sharpest military need because of disease and disability. It could be directly attributed to malnutrition. Thus, if a health program is to accomplish anything at all, it must aim primarily at lifting the dietary level of the people throughout the land.

Studies along these lines have already been made by the Department of Agriculture and other agencies. Among the plans suggested is one for a broad school lunch program under which both luncheon would be served in every public school in the country, with the program jointly financed by federal, state and municipal funds. This would be a substantial contribution to improving the health of the school children, as demonstrated by the results seen in those areas where the school lunch program has been operating at government expense in recent years.

Another proposed aspect of the nutrition-balance campaign is a food stamp program somewhat similar to the one used on a limited scale during the depression in the 1930s to help dispose of farm surpluses. Also, such programs would increase consumption, and thereby serve as farm-aid measures, both of which are important. Food stamp plans have the support of the National Farmers Union. This endorsement is important because this farmers' organization is the one most closely oriented to a aspirations of the trade union movement.

In one of the Department of Agriculture studies on what is properly called "the problem of underconsumption," it is shown that malnutrition has two adverse social effects, one psychological and the other economic. "The psychological effect," it states, "is manifested in malnutrition, ill health, and dependence. The economic effect is manifested itself as a deterrent to the operating economy of the nation."

Translated into simple terms, this means that the United States and better off squandering the health of its citizens with the rapid results of past years. It is hard to escape the conclusion, however, that it would still be much desirable to have enough jobs and purchasing power, supplemented, of course, health education, than to resort to piecemeal devices.

## Fats and Oils Low Next Year; Soap Up

Although food fats and oils have been freed from wartime rationing, the Bureau of Agriculture estimates foresees a slight shortage in those supplies for 1946. They include butter, margarine, lard, shortening, cooking and salad oils. The situation will be eased as a result of the restoration of pre-war copra imports from sources in the South Pacific.

## Co-ops Give Lesson To Giant Meat Firm

The cooperatives scored an interesting victory recently that still has a decided impact on the meat business. The victim is the Armour Co., a giant meat-packing concern, whose fertilizer division decided to squeeze out the farmers' cooperatives by refusing to supply them with fertilizer. This policy of discrimination quickly boomeranged when the fertilizer division heard from Armour's meat division, in plain, that the farmers' cooperatives were among the biggest fertilizer users in the region. Accordingly, fertilizer will continue to be supplied to both the cooperatives and their competitors.

## Television Seen Unready For Big Time Until 1947

Television sets will not be produced in great quantity until 1947, according to present trade indications. During next year, it is estimated that 300,000 sets will be turned out and double that number the following year.

## "We Thought You'd Like to Know Why"



VICTORY LOAN



# CUTS COLUMN LOCAL 10

(ISIDORE NAGLER, Manager)

The newly established Health and Vacation Department is ready to commence operations on the first of January. It will coordinate and administer a benefit program for the cutters in the miscellaneous branches which will doubtless be hailed as among the most advanced in the industry.

The ILOUWU program will be successful from preventive health care, with employees obligated to make use of the collective agreement.

Sickness and disease are among the worst calamities that can befall an individual or a family. It means loss of earnings, medical expenditures, nervous anxiety and plenty of unhappiness.

The high cost of medical care does not enable workers and people of moderate means generally to maintain the health standards made possible by the enormous advances of modern medical science. This problem has been the subject of wide discussion and proposed legislation, but governmental action has been blocked by reactionary elements in both the medical profession and Congress. Many unions such as Local 10 have in recent years devoted to meet this problem by having about the establishment of industry health funds.

## Sickness Insurance

As a result of the health program adopted by Local 10, covering sickness, hospitalization, surgical operations and tuberculosis, members in the miscellaneous trades can face the hazards of sickness and disease with a greater degree of security. Of equal importance is the opportunity which they will have to obtain periodic medical examinations to prevent or check the spread of disease. This is in line with the current emphasis on preventive medicine.

Vacation benefits are also an important part of the program. The amount of the annual vacation payment will be determined as of before May 1 of each year and paid during the summer months. Last year each miscellaneous cutter received \$4.

An enumeration of the various health benefits indicates the wide scope and substantial character of the plan of the program.

In the event of illness preventing a member from working, he is entitled to any benefit year to \$12 a week for four weeks in a benefit year. The benefit year begins on the date when a member applies for benefits.

The hospital benefit is \$5 a day up to 30 days during the course of the benefit year.

Surgical indemnity up to \$50 in a benefit year will be paid to a member who undergoes an operation while confined in a hospital.

Members found to have contracted tuberculosis are entitled to receive \$200.

These payments are made only upon proper certification by the Union Health Center. In the case of the hospital benefit, it is also required that a bill or statement be submitted from a legally constituted and operated hospital.

Members are entitled to receive medical credits up to \$25 in any benefit year for services at the Union Health Center. These include general health and eye examinations, treatment and diagnostic specialist services.

Once in two years a member may obtain eye glasses.

## Union Tasks Broadened

For information as to the procedure for obtaining these health benefits and the applicable rules and regulations, members should inquire at the Vacation and Health Department, of which Harry Shash is manager.

It should be noted that the cutters in the following branches are entitled to the health benefits beginning July 1, 1946—portworkers, mechanics, shoemakers and carmen and brasserie.

On July 1, 1946, the cutters in the underwear and rainwear industry will be admitted to these benefits and it is hoped that this will

## ATTENTION Members LOCAL 10 REGULAR MEETING

Jan. 28, 1946  
Night After Work  
MANHATTAN  
CENTER  
34th St. & 8th Ave.

future prospects of the garment industry. Reports will be rendered by affiliates of the ILOUWU throughout the country. In this connection, the activities and progress of the cutters will be reviewed in a report to be submitted to the GEB.

## Farewell to Sarah Fried

Sarah Fried, who has served the local as bookkeeper for 20 years, has retired. Her single-minded loyalty and devotion to the cutters has won her their whole-hearted affection and esteem. Notwithstanding the fact that she was a member of another union, the cutters have always regarded her as a part of their organization. In recognition of her service, the executive board presented her with a gift and gave her a send-off party prior to her departure for Florida. In leaving Local 10, she takes with her our best wishes for continued health and happiness.

## CHICAGO MIDWEST

By MORRIS BIALIS, V.P.,  
Director, Midwest District ILOUWU

Chicago's cloak and dressmakers contributed \$12,000 to the Community Chest in the recent drive. The donation was turned over to Robert E. Gahm, local representative of the fund, by a committee headed by Vice Pres. Morris Bialis, M. A. Goldstein, secretary, and Harry Mendel, chairman of the Chicago Joint Board.

## All Ill. Cuts Parts Reviewed

All agreements with cotton garment manufacturers in Illinois were reviewed in recent weeks, with wage increases ranging from 5 cents to 10 cents an hour, according to a report by Organizer Harry Butler.

Pay-rates for workers in the clothing shops of the Fox River Valley region have been settled with substantial gain and the wages of the line-workers in these shops have been boosted from \$7.50 to \$5 weekly.

Substantial improvements to the earnings and working conditions of the employees of the Rev-Marshall Co. and the Freds Knitting Mills, Port Huron, Mich., are also reported. At the Wolverine Knitting Mills fair and satisfactory working conditions are likewise indicated.

## Ind. Negotiations Now Under Way

Wage terms governing rates for workers in Indiana garment shops are being reviewed in the course of negotiations for the renewal of various parts.

An increase of 5 cents an hour for Christmas bonuses were won by the members of Local 351 at Garrett.

It is expected that the negotiations being conducted for wage increases for the garment workers at Port Wayne will almost certainly be marked by the cooperative spirit which has characterized such bargaining in the past.

Members of the union in Elk-hart and South Bend at recent meetings approved the gains embodied in the proposed pact with the Garment Industries of Illinois. Despite the nature of this association, some of its members operate plants in several Indiana cities. General Organizer Abraham Pielkin explained the terms of the agreement at these meetings.

P. C. Mich, May Cause Strike The new pact for the garment workers at Ekehart, Mich., provides for an increase of 4 cents an hour and the payment of Christmas bonuses.

In Marquette and Ishpeming, Mich., Organizer William Davis is making every effort to negotiate a new contract with the U. P. Dress

## Design Students Admire ILO Know-How



Girls from University of California apparel design class pick up a few pointers on Jack Le Page, Local 84, Los Angeles, expertly wields his straightknife electric power cutting machine.

## UNION HEALTH CENTER

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

The medical staff of the Union Health Center recently held a most interesting and profitable meeting. Despite a raging storm on the night of the meeting, about 40 of our physicians came, and we think it was worth their while since this is a propitious time to inform them of the Union Health Center's plans.

These physicians are the very ones who can contribute so much to the development of the institution and to the happiness of our citizens. It is the physician to whom the patient comes for relief, advice and comfort. It is, therefore, most important for the physicians to know what the Union Health Center is, what its functions and purposes are; who our people are, what their needs are; and what kind of service they require. Since so many of our physicians are not familiar with the history and objectives of the ILOUWU, we feel that this meeting was a necessary and enlightening one.

Dr. Leo Price, director of the Union Health Center, described its background, growth and development, and explained its place in the economic life of our patients. He also showed its function in the field of medicine and its obligation to the physician and the physician's obligation to the institution.

Several of the old-timers—physicians who have been with the Union Health Center for many years and know our people—also spoke of their medical needs and the services they require. As one of them remarked:

"I have traveled a great deal in this country and in other countries. I make it my business to see and investigate medical institutions wherever I go, and nowhere have I seen as unique an institution as the Union Health Center. Here, we physicians have a real chance to practice good medicine and to develop a real human relationship between the patients and ourselves."

## Center's Unique Place

In line with the general expansion program of the Union Health Center, it is evident that the health educational activities, too, will have to be increased. As everyone in the ILOUWU knows, health education has always been an integral part of the Center's service. The walls and all other available space have been used to display appropriate posters; racks have always been placed where the patients can see them and read the literature dealing with various phases of health. In this way, we have reached thousands of our members directly with health messages and a good deal of necessary instruction.

We have done more. We have gone to shop meetings, educational meetings, general meetings and very often, to the shops where our people work. At all these meetings we found a better response than we had anticipated. We think that the Union Health Center has had a large share in awakening our members to the need of good health and its preservation.

But now we must go further. We must reach our younger members. Young people, when they are well, are not interested in their own health. They must be encouraged to take advantage of their opportunity to have frequent examinations by their frequent check-ups. We know that the best method for health education is preventive medicine. Preventive medicine means regular check-ups.



# JUSTICE

## NOT FOR BARTER

The Administration's surprise move—only two days after the Labor-Management Conference adjourned—for the enactment of a law, patterned upon the Railway Labor Act, that would vest the government with power to appoint fact-finding boards in the event of major labor-industry deadlocks, is being interpreted as President Truman's quick reaction to the disappointing outcome of that conference.

Labor and industry, it is said, were unable, after meeting for four weeks, to offer the President a roadblock on the fundamental machinery necessary for industrial peace. Seeking something which would appear an irate and consistently anti-labor Congress and which would also soften public feeling now running high because of strikes and labor disputes, the President and his advisers chose the mildest possible device—namely, fact-finding boards without compulsion on either side to accept conclusions. Public opinion, made familiar with the findings of such boards, it is further assumed, could be depended upon to influence an unbiased termination of the disputes in question.

Such is the pattern of fact-finding technique and, at first blush, it sounds rather plausible. The President, moreover, declared in his message that, he hopes Congress "would refrain from adopting repressive or coercive measures against either side," adding that "a free American labor and a free American private enterprise are essential to our free democratic system." On the other hand, fact-finding boards are not novel in American industry-labor annals and have been used with more or less success in other industries outside the railways. In fact, the Labor-Management Conference had such a proposal for fact-finding pacts on its own agenda; management gave it lukewarm support, but labor flatly rejected it.

As the hearings on this bill begin, however, it is becoming fairly obvious that it will meet with solid opposition from organized labor, and that management may accord it only tepid and conditional support. One can hardly conceive, indeed, that industry, which has so consistently defended a policy of keeping costs, profits and other price factors away from the public eye, would come out cheering for a law by virtue of which boards, implemented with subpoena powers, could place such data right under the nose of a curious public. The United Auto Workers, in fact, got a sample of management's attitude on its records and profits when, shortly before the strike, it collided with that company's angry refusal to open its books, even though the union was ready to stake its entire wage demand on the outcome of a fair appraisal of GM's financial ability to grant the pay raise.

Labor, on the other hand, hardly needs to fear the inquisitorial powers of fact-finding panels. But labor is irrevocably opposed to any law that would abolish its freedom of action, no matter how briefly, at a critical moment during a deadlock on contract negotiations. As for the other aspect of the fact-finding plans—the pressure of public opinion—labor, which has neither a big press nor an extensive radio network of its own, has learned by now that it is not the little "man in the street" who molds public opinion, but the powerful commercial press and radio—and these have not been on labor's side too often in times of conflict with industry.

By acting in great haste and with apparent good intentions to block the even more repressive measures being shaped up by Congressional tiers, the President unfortunately precluded the possibility of prior consultation with the representatives of organized labor. Had he done so, he undoubtedly would have found that a proposal for setting up fact-finding boards, unaccompanied by the 30-day waiting period, would not have earned such utter opposition from labor as is now being directed against his double-headed plan. Labor does not fear the facts. But no American worker, no American citizen, can tolerate the suspension of fundamental American freedoms for any length of time—30 days or 30 minutes. Organized labor certainly cannot give support to a measure which, in one sweep, revives the conspiracy doctrine and government by injunction and may even be interpreted in such a manner as to make criminals of a father and son discussing work and wages around the family table.

## The New National Health Plan

President Truman's new health insurance program, which would cover all Americans "who work for a living" and their dependents, should receive the unequivocal support of every trade unionist.

The plan, similar to the original Murray-Wagner-Dingell bill and now promptly reinroduced by them in the form of a new bill, is not "socialized medicine." The President has made that clear. Under its rules, no physician will be compelled to work for the government, nor would any patient be hampered in his free choice of a doctor or a hospital.

The organized medical profession, it may be expected, will soon resume its attack on this new health plan in the hope of delaying action on it.

No doubt, the doctors will trot out again the bugaboo of "medical socialism" and will offer as alternatives the private health insurance groups and societies which operate today in many cities. What the organized medicine will fail to mention is that private groups at best cover only a small fraction of our people.

The kind and amount of medical care which we need should not depend on how much we can afford to pay at the time we need it. Therein lies the basic appeal of national health insurance. The medical profession cannot hope to achieve this objective without the aid of the federal government.

"You Can't Cover It"



## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

By M. D. D.

THIS STORY could very well have been explained "Chester in the Free Enterprise Den," except that OPA Administrator Bowles was not cast into the Waterbury. A meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers the other day by a blood-thirsty desert king led walked into that swamp gathering by invitation and came out none the wiser for the experience.

What the NAM top men had expected Mr. Bowles to say may not be entirely clear to an uninitiated outsider. Perhaps they had thought that, faced with their recent losses, demand that price controls be ended by next Feb. 15, the OPA chief would relent and consent. Also, that Mr. Bowles would benefit from a preceding talk by that staunch friend of the American consumer, Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio, in which this specific of inflation had poured fire and brimstone on OPA, charging it with "hypocrisy," attempts to "control prices" and with the many other ineptitudes that the poor, defenseless manufacturers and wholesalers were being made to endure.

Well, Mr. Bowles was NOT impressed, and he told off the assembled manufacturers straight and plenty. Using the question-and-answer method, he literally unseated his polite audience with a volley of conclusions which touched upon every vital consumer item—rice, clothing, various cleaners, and rents. "Wage demands," he said among other things, "which most of you gentlemen feel are excessive, would be very properly intensified if prices were allowed to boom." Retail sales, still under price control, "which your leaders claim make all-out production impossible are breaking every record," he concluded.

Moral: Never give a "bureaucrat" an even break. You're likely to get burned in your own den.

WHEN CHARLES Kreindler landed with his group of "fellow travelers" in Hawaii last October on the way to Tokyo, he was warned by a tip general of the American command that he "better be good" in handling himself at meetings with the OPA already scheduled at various military bases in the Far East. "There's a lot of hard-bitten anti-social feeling among the boys and it is you labor men who will have to bear the brunt of the hecking," he was admonished.

Well, "Justice" has already reported that the labor men on this particular War Department mission did make good. They encountered, to be sure, plenty of hecking and had to answer a lot of biting and acid questions at the meetings with the OPA. Nevertheless, the important thing revealed at these sessions was the fact that this much-wanted anti-united front feeling among the sailors and soldiers has been greatly exaggerated. Many of the OPA's especially those who come from the rural areas or from white-collar groups in the cities, did get badly diverted notions from reading daily headlines in the semi-fascist press about the "alien" and about the "big" money earned by the men and women in the war plants. But the great majority seemed unbiased and quite ready to listen to fair argument.

All of which gives this writer a personal "I told you so" sense of satisfaction. Since the early days of the war, there has developed among many of our laborites a strong feeling not unshared with fear that our OPA would return home with

sworn anti-union prejudices, ready to smother the unions and to turn the country over to the bourgeois. I was among the few who consistently refused to share in that belief. I still think I am right.

THERE'S A SKEIN of anti-labor bills toppling the calendars of several House committees. The syndicate labor-baiting bloc in the House obviously has reacted the conclusion that its "tag" is finally here and that now is the time to clip labor's wings.

No, look for a flock of positive measures soon to be reported out on the floor of Congress—bills permitting employers to sue unions for damages; bills suspending bargaining rights of unions charged with violating no-strike agreements; bills prohibiting labor unions from engaging in primary and general elections; and even a bill imposing major penalties on unions in time of strikes for "interference in interstate commerce."

Frankly, we don't believe that all these bills will pass the House or, if they should, that they will be approved in the Senate and signed by the President. The very fact, however, that such bills are being introduced in Congress registers a new trade unionism on the part of the labor-baiters, an arrogance that should startle the leaders of the labor movement out of their normal complacency and annoying over-confidence.

Perhaps the most explicit answer to this wave of anti-labor fury generating from the halls of Congress was given last week by the old chief of the AFL, William Green, who crisply remarked at a meeting of a group of liberal House members: "We are no different from the laboring men of Great Britain. When driven to desperation, we too will turn to the left." One does not often hear such thoughts publicly uttered by an acknowledged leader of American labor.

William Green knows precisely what the British Labor Party stands for. A few weeks ago, Congress also had a chance to learn the same from the mouth of War Prime Minister Clement Attlee, what his party intends to do. The American workers who took their early lessons in trade unionism from the British may find it to their decided advantage to scrutinize the political example of their fellow-unionists in Britain.

If the Congress tries to believe they can legislate the trade union movement out of existence by political means, the unions might find a way to fight this fire with a political blaze of their own.

UNTHINKABLE, says Soviet publicist Sokolov in a Moscow journal, for influential newspapers or magazines in the United States to criticize sharply or to disagree openly with the proclaimed policy of their government. "Unthinkable" is the right word for it. In a country where 175,000,000 human beings must think alike or else, freedom of thought and expression is truly unthinkable.

We wonder though whether Mr. Sokolov believes the unbridled freedom of thought and expression which his fellow-thinkers in this country—the American despots of Communism—enjoy here also falls within the "unthinkable" category. Or is this freedom just another common-sense variation of "imperialist" incense-burner?